

# FFA 27<sup>th</sup>

NATIONAL CONVENTION

*Proceedings*



***October 11-14, 1954***

MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

**FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA**

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TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL  
C O N V E N T I O N

OF THE

*Future Farmers of  
America*



*Held at*

MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM  
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

October 11-14, 1954

*Prepared and Published by the Future Farmers of America in cooperation with  
the Office of Education, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare*

*Printed by FRENCH-BRAY Co., Baltimore, Md.*





## INTRODUCTION

The Future Farmers of America is the national organization of boys studying vocational agriculture in public secondary schools under the provisions of the National Vocational Education Acts. Launched at Kansas City in November 1928, the organization has continued to develop rapidly. On June 30, 1954, the active membership totaled 371,592 in 8,793 chapters of 48 States, Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

The primary aim of the Future Farmers of America organization is the development of agricultural leadership, cooperation, citizenship and patriotism. Other purposes include: strengthening the confidence of farm boys and young men in themselves and their work; more intelligent choice of farming occupations; creating and nurturing a love of country life; improving the rural home and its surroundings; encouraging cooperative effort; encouraging thrift; improving scholarship; providing organized recreational activities for rural people; and supplementing, by means of boy-initiated and boy-directed activities, the systematic instruction offered to prospective young farmers regularly enrolled in day-school vocational agriculture courses.

The Future Farmers of America organization of voluntary membership has taken its place with other agencies interested in the upbuilding of agriculture and the improvement of country life. National headquarters of the Future Farmers of America is located in the Office of Education, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Washington 25, D. C. National conventions are held annually at Kansas City, Missouri.

The Twenty-Seventh National Convention of the Future Farmers of America was held at the Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, Missouri, October 11 through 14, 1954. Delegates were present from 50 chartered associations. Approximately 10,000 individuals attended the convention.

These proceedings constitute a yearbook on organization activities. The complete minutes of the Convention sessions are included, along with certain other important material which is supplementary to or explanatory to the convention activities. Press releases, as well as certain newspaper accounts, were used in compiling parts of this publication. Thanks are due to Mr. John J. Farrar, Director of Public Relations and Information for the FFA, Miss Veronica Horan, Miss Virginia Nicholson and Mrs. Irene W. Shafer for their assistance in the preparation of material for this publication.

A. W. TENNEY  
National Executive Secretary

## 1954 OFFICIAL DELEGATES

Alabama.....	Garland Bond.....	Roy Boyd Route 2, Greensboro
Arizona.....	Oliver H. Maud, Jr.....	Freddy North 213 South Washington Casa Grande
Arkansas.....	Jerry Moss .....	Douglas Moore Harrison
California.....	Joe Faure, Jr.....	James Campbell Rt. 2, Box 878, Porterville
Colorado.....	Vernon Cardwell.....	Donald Klinkerman Fort Morgan
Connecticut.....	Harold R. Bishop.....	Ralph Bunker Guilford
Delaware.....	Richard James .....	Wilson Reed Laurel
Florida.....	Eugene Mixon .....	Colin Williamson Rt. 2, East Bradenton
Georgia.....	Terrell Benton.....	Paul Yarbrough Route 1, Jefferson
Hawaii.....	Frederick Nonaka.....	Earl De Castro Box 293, Hakalau
Idaho.....	Sherm Snow.....	Clair Bosen Route 1, Moscow
Illinois.....	Larry Royer.....	Jon Ball Assumption
Indiana.....	Charles Jackson .....	Ray Brewer R.R. 3, Columbus
Iowa.....	Howard L. Linder.....	J. Bradley Tate R.R. 2, Sigourney
Kansas.....	Nelson D. Galle.....	Harry Dean Peter R.R. 2, Moundridge
Kentucky.....	Jerry Ringo .....	James Outland Rothwell
Louisiana.....	Billy Rogers .....	Randolph Lively Route 4, Mansfield
Maine.....	Darrell L. Chandler.....	Winthrop Richards Presque Isle
Maryland.....	William E. Murrow.....	Adrian McC. Remsburg White Hall
Massachusetts.....	Gilbert Leveille .....	Thomas Nix 84 Barrows Street
Michigan.....	Richard Arnold .....	James Boyne Route 1, Plainwell
Minnesota.....	Melvyn Fahning .....	George Langemo Wells
Mississippi.....	Denton O'Dell.....	Fred Tyner, Jr. Route 5, Holly Springs
Missouri.....	John Hanes.....	Vance Bodenhause Marshall

Montana.....	Don Patterson .....	Ed Reiter Montague                      Huntley
Nebraska.....	Charles Trumble .....	Roger Standage Papillion                      Poole
Nevada.....	Bob deBraga.....	Jay Wright Fallon                      Alamo
New Hampshire.....	Sherman Carney .....	Roger W. Purington Colebrook                      North Weare
New Jersey.....	Roger Locandro.....	Earl Snook New Brunswick                      Sussex
New Mexico.....	Lawrence Widner .....	Jerry Simmons Star Route, Melrose                      Route 1, Box 275, Artesia
New York.....	Leon Smith.....	Carlton Gregory R.D. 2, Rome                      R.D. 3, Walton
North Carolina.....	Bobby Futrelle.....	Charles Keels Route 3, Mt. Olive                      Route 6, Monroe
North Dakota.....	Howard Lahlum .....	W. Eugene Jensen Valley City                      Route 2, Williston
Ohio.....	Dale Ring .....	Neil Milner Route 5, Wooster                      Leesburg
Oklahoma.....	Max Berry .....	Jim Hogan Cherokee                      Clinton
Oregon.....	Dan Dunham .....	Richard Pahl P.O. Box 2, Lakeview                      Star Route, Pendleton
Pennsylvania.....	Jerry Fuhrman .....	Robert Worley R.D. 1, New Freedom                      R.D. 3, Mercer
Puerto Rico.....	José A. Alago.....	José R. Rivera Utuaado                      Orocovis
Rhode Island.....	William Smith .....	Raymond Morell RFD, Middletown                      Pippin Orchard Road RFD, Cranston
South Carolina.....	H. Emmett McCracken, Jr.....	Jackie Marsh Bluffton                      Hemingway
South Dakota.....	Herman Felstehausen .....	Marshall Warnick Clark                      Leola
Tennessee.....	Joe Moore .....	Emmett Barker Granville                      Route 1, Humboldt
Texas.....	Jon Hagler .....	Joe Dan Boyd La Grange                      Winnsboro
Utah.....	Robert Wilson .....	Nolan Mangelson Sandy                      Ephraim
Vermont.....	Paul Daniels.....	David Allen Irasburg                      Jacksonville
Virginia.....	Lennie Gamage .....	David Miller Cartersville                      Bland
Washington.....	George Wood .....	Dave Schuy Waitsburg                      Kent
West Virginia.....	Allen Colebank .....	Charles Cole Route 4, Morgantown                      Auburn
Wisconsin.....	James Werth .....	Joe Conlin Markesan                      Columbus
Wyoming.....	James Michel .....	Walter Yetter Worland                      LaGrange

# NATIONAL FFA PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

MAIN ARENA, MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 11—8:00 P. M.

## CHAIRMAN

David Boyne, National President of FFA

Opening Ceremony

Music—National FFA Band, Henry S. Brunner, Pennsylvania State College,  
conducting

Explanation of Contest

Drawing for Speaking Order

## SPEAKERS

Frank Alameda, Jr., Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

*"Mulching a Part of Soil Conservation"*

Timothy Ballard, Issaquah, Washington

*"A Challenge in Agriculture"*

Dabney Overton, Jr., Warsaw, Virginia

*"Farmers at the Cross-Roads"*

Dennis O'Keefe, Westerville, Ohio

*"What Have We Done"*

Norman Koch, Williamsport, Pennsylvania

*"Milk for the Millions"*

## JUDGES

Ralph L. Foster, Managing Editor, "Capper's Farmer," Topeka, Kansas

Robert D. McMillen, Assistant to the Secretary, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Frank Jenks, Vice President, International Harvester Company, Chicago, Illinois

## TIMEKEEPERS

Chris Stritzinger, Advertising and Sales Promotion Manager, Butler Manufacturing Company, Kansas City, Missouri

J. Willard Olander, National Livestock Company, Kansas City, Missouri

# CONVENTION PROGRAM

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12

8:00 A. M. Registration, Grand Foyer, Municipal Auditorium

9:00 A. M. Opening Session, Main Arena, Municipal Auditorium

Opening Ceremony

Band Concert—National FFA Band

Group Singing

Invocation—Jimmy Dillon, Past National FFA President

Report on Delegate Credentials

Roll Call of States and Seating of Delegates

Address of Welcome—William E. Kemp, Mayor of Kansas City,  
Missouri

Minutes of Twenty-Sixth National Convention—Hunt Zumwalt,  
National Student Secretary

Appointment of Constitutional Committees

Addresses of Retiring Officers

Nomination of Honorary American Farmers—W. T. Spanton,  
Chief, Agricultural Education Branch, Office of Education,  
Washington, D. C.



Treasurer's Report—Dowell J. Howard, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Richmond, Virginia  
Executive Secretary's Report—A. W. Tenney, Agricultural Education Branch, Office of Education, Washington, D. C.  
Music—National FFA Band and Chorus  
Address—His Excellency A. D. P. Heeney, Canadian Ambassador, Washington, D. C.  
Closing Ceremony

- 2:00 P. M.    Second Session, Main Arena, Municipal Auditorium  
    Opening Ceremony  
    Music—National FFA Chorus, Dr. James W. Hatch, New York State Department of Education, conducting  
    Address—Mr. W. A. Roberts, President, Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Co., Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
    Conferring of Honorary American Farmer Degrees  
    Music—National FFA Band  
    Presentation of Awards in National Chapter Contest  
    American Farmer Degree Ceremony  
    Closing Ceremony
- 7:25 P. M.    Third Session, Main Arena, Municipal Auditorium  
    Opening Ceremony  
    Music—National FFA Band and Chorus  
    Massing of State Flags—State Star Farmers  
    Presentation of Star American Farmer Awards  
    Recessional  
    Closing Ceremony  
    Special Entertainment—Courtesy, Firestone Tire and Rubber Company

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13**

- 9:00 A. M.    Fourth Session, Main Arena, Municipal Auditorium  
    Opening Ceremony  
    Music—Caraway, Arkansas, String Band  
    Unfinished Business  
    New Business  
    Greetings from Past National FFA Officers  
    An Interview with Participants in the International Youth Exchange—Don Travis, Billy Gunter, Hywel Jones, and William Wannop  
    Addresses of Retiring Officers  
    Music—National FFA Band and Chorus  
    Greetings—Honorable S. M. Brownell, Commissioner, U. S. Office of Education  
    Dramatization of FFA Creed  
    Closing Ceremony
- 1:00 P. M.    Tours to Points of Interest
- 2:00 P. M.    Fifth Session, Main Arena, Municipal Auditorium  
    Opening Ceremony  
    Appointment of Committees  
    Recess for Committee Work  
    Closing Ceremony

8:00 P. M. Sixth Session, Main Arena, Municipal Auditorium  
 Opening Ceremony  
 Music—National FFA Band and Chorus  
 Calling to the Platform Representatives of Donors to the Future  
 Farmers of America Foundation, Inc.  
 Introduction of Platform Guests  
 The Future Farmers of America Foundation at Ten—W. T.  
 Spanton  
 Response—Mr. W. A. Roberts, President, Allis-Chalmers Manu-  
 facturing Company, Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
 Presentation of Future Farmers of America Foundation, Inc.  
 Awards  
 Farm Mechanics  
 Farm Electrification  
 Dairy Farming (Announced)  
 Music—Accordion Solo, Tommy Sanguinetti, Linden, California  
 Soil and Water Management  
 Farm Safety  
 Music—National FFA Band  
 Closing Ceremony  
 FFA Amateur Hour

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14

9:00 A. M. Seventh Session, Main Arena, Municipal Auditorium  
 Opening Ceremony  
 Music—National FFA Band and Chorus  
 Addresses of Retiring Officers  
 New Business  
 Committee Reports  
 Music—Farmersville, Illinois, Dixieland Swing Band  
 Closing Ceremony

1:30 P. M. Eighth Session, Main Arena, Municipal Auditorium  
 Opening Ceremony  
 Music—Holbrook, Nebraska, String Band  
 Presentation of Budget for 1954-55  
 Annual Dues for 1954-55  
 Report of Nominating Committee  
 Election of Officers  
 Greetings from Incoming Officers  
 Installation of New Officers  
 Presentation of Past Officers' Pins and Certificates by New  
 President  
 Closing Ceremony by New Officers

2:30 P. M. Special Entertainment, Courtesy, Saddle and Sirloin Club (By  
 to Invitation Only)  
 7:00 P. M.



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OFFICER-DELEGATE LUNCHEON  
29TH NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION  
HOTEL PRESIDENT, KANSAS CITY  
OCT. 14, 1958

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# Minutes of the Convention

**Monday, October 11, 1954**

Evening Session

The Future Farmers of America twenty-seventh national convention convened in the Main Arena of the Municipal Auditorium, Kansas City, Missouri, at eight o'clock. National President David Boyne, of Marlette, Michigan, presiding. National Vice Presidents Charles W. Ritter, Jr., Walker James, John Schultheis, and Harlan Rigney were present as well as Student Secretary Hunt Zumwalt; Advisor W. T. Spanton; Executive Secretary A. W. Tenney and Treasurer Dowell J. Howard.

Following the opening ceremony the National FFA Band presented a concert.

An explanation of the National FFA Public Speaking Contest was given by President Boyne. The speakers then drew for speaking order. Following the speeches the National Chorus presented several selections while the judges conferred. Results of the Contest were announced and awards presented on behalf of the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Inc. by Vice President Charles W. Ritter, Jr.

The meeting adjourned with the closing ceremony.

**Tuesday, October 12, 1954**

Morning Session

The first session of the convention was called to order at nine o'clock with the opening ceremony, President Boyne presiding.

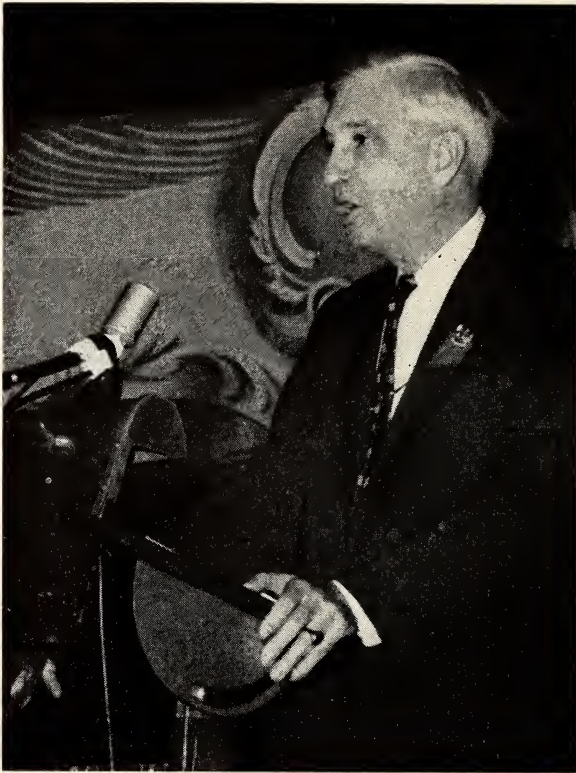
Following a concert by the national band, the invocation was pronounced by Jimmy Dillon, National President in 1952-53.

The report of the Delegate Credentials was called for and Student Secretary Zumwalt reported 100 official delegates present from 50 chartered associations. The roll call and seating of the delegates followed.

The Honorable William E. Kemp, Mayor of Kansas City, Missouri, made the Address of Welcome to the Future Farmers of America.

The minutes of the Twenty-sixth National Convention were read by Student Secretary Zumwalt and approved unanimously in their entirety.





The Honorable William E. Kemp, Mayor of Kansas City, Missouri, welcomed the Future Farmers at the opening session of the National FFA Convention.

President Boyne introduced David Miller, President of the Virginia Association, who in turn introduced Dallas Looney, President of the Rocky Gap, Virginia, Chapter, and Mr. Bruce Robertson, Advisor of the Rocky Gap Chapter. Mr. Robertson then presented on behalf of his Chapter a speaker's stand made of various species of wood, which would match the gavel presented last year by the Bradentown, Florida, Chapter. The stand is constructed of 240 pieces of wood, representing the 208 chapters, one collegiate chapter and 31 federations in the Virginia Association. It is comprised of 38 species of wood native to the State of Virginia.

President Boyne announced the appointment of the Auditing, Program of Work and Nominating Committees.

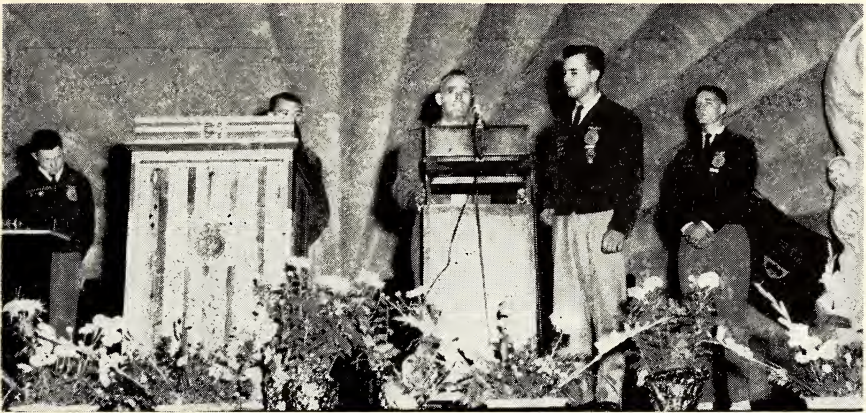
North Atlantic Regional Vice President Walker James assumed the chair.

President Boyne presented his report and moved its adoption; motion seconded by Galle of Kansas and carried.

President Boyne resumed the chair.

Pacific Regional Vice President John Schultheis presented his report and moved its adoption; motion seconded by Worley of Pennsylvania and carried.

Advisor Spanton presented the names of the following persons who were considered and recommended by the National Board of Student Officers and National Board of Directors to receive the Honorary American Farmer Degree:



David Miller, President of the Virginia Association; Dallas Looney, President of the Rocky Gap, Virginia, Chapter; and Mr. Bruce Robertson, Chapter Advisor, presented a rostrum to the national organization for use during the annual national conventions.

Frank Atwood, Farm Program Director, Station WTIC, Hartford, Connecticut  
 Thomas D. Bailey, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Department of Education, Tallahassee, Florida (President, National Council of Chief State School Officers)

L. C. Dalton, State Supervisor of Agricultural Education, Box 98, State College, New Mexico

J. C. Haynes, Director of Public Relations, Sears, Roebuck & Company, Atlanta, Georgia

A. D. P. Heeney, Ambassador, Canadian Embassy, Washington, D. C.

George H. Hurt, Acting Director, Vocational Agricultural Education, Texas Education Agency, Austin, Texas

Robert D. McMillen, Assistant to the Secretary, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Don Moeller, Agricultural Research Department, Swift and Company, Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Illinois

Alexander Nunn, Executive Editor, "The Progressive Farmer," Birmingham, Alabama

W. A. Roberts, President, Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

John A. Snell, State Director of Agricultural Education, State Department of Education, Augusta, Maine  
George E. Taylor, Director of Agricultural Development, United States Rubber Company, New York, New York  
Morris T. Warner, Staunton Novelty Company, Staunton, Virginia  
F. A. Wirt, Advertising Manager, J. I. Case Company, Racine, Wisconsin  
Neil C. Boyne, Marlette, Michigan  
F. Ray Zumwalt, Box 55, Artesia, New Mexico  
C. W. Ritter, Route 2, Amory, Mississippi  
Stanley James, RD 1, Orwell, Vermont  
Andrew Schultheis, Colton, Washington  
Thomas B. Rigney, Red Oak, Illinois  
John P. Wright, Alamo, Nevada  
Jay L. Mattes, Allen, Nebraska  
J. P. Henry, Hope Hull, Alabama  
C. S. Brock, Greenville, Illinois  
Clyde E. Fry, Clinton, Illinois  
J. A. Twardock, 1410 W. Green Street, Champaign, Illinois  
Neil E. Johnston, Box 67, Clarinda, Iowa  
R. H. Hoberg, Ortonville, Minnesota  
J. H. Tschetter, 907 Albion Avenue, Fairmont, Minnesota  
L. C. Schank, Fallon, Nevada  
James G. Jones, Granite Quarry, North Carolina  
Isaac H. Kearney, Route 2, Lexington, North Carolina  
Marvin W. Mangum, Route 1, Monroe, North Carolina  
Ralph Foltz, Bremen, Ohio  
George Krill, Ashland, Ohio  
Harold W. Moorhead, Sycamore, Ohio  
Roy A. Fordyce, North East, Pennsylvania  
J. F. Brown, Whitney, Texas  
M. R. Henslee, Luling, Texas  
J. R. Jackson, College Station, Texas  
L. E. Stone, Mt. Pleasant, Texas  
Richmond A. Young, Randolph Center, Vermont  
Harvey D. Seal, Ashland, Virginia  
Ted Britten, 129 Avenue B, Snohomish, Washington  
J. Arthur Johnson, Ellensburg, Washington  
Chester Lybecker, Walla Walla, Washington  
J. O. Beadle, Galesville, Wisconsin  
T. R. Lathrope, Reedsburg, Wisconsin

It was moved by Fuhrman of Pennsylvania to confer the Honorary American Farmer Degree upon the individuals whose names were read; seconded by Widner of New Mexico and carried.

Dr. Dowell J. Howard, National FFA Treasurer, presented his report. Galle of Kansas moved to accept this report; motion seconded by Allen of Vermont and carried.

President Boyne read a letter of greeting from the Future Farmers of Canada. The Honorary American Farmer Degree was then conferred upon His Excellency A. D. P. Heeney, Canadian Ambassador, by President Boyne. Ambassador Heeney then made a very inspiring address.



# *Greetings . . . .*

FUTURE FARMERS OF CANADA

*to*

FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

On behalf of the Future Farmers of Canada I wish to express to the Future Farmers of America in National Convention our keen regret in being unable to send a delegation. This regret is all the keener in that you are on this occasion honoring our Ambassador, and through him our Country, by inviting him to address your convention.

Will you kindly convey our greetings to the Future Farmers of America, and extend our very best wishes for a successful convention and for continued growth in the future?

Allow me to remark that the vigour, strength, and purpose of your movement is typified, not only by its extension throughout the United States of America, but by its adoption in the Provinces of British Columbia and Alberta.

WILLIAM H. GRANT,

*Provincial Advisor to the  
Future Farmers of Canada  
and Consultant in Vocational  
Agriculture*

## GREETINGS FROM CANADA

President Boyne introduced the Ambassador to Mexico from Canada, Honorable Douglas S. Cole.

The meeting adjourned with the closing ceremony.

## Tuesday, October 12, 1954

### Afternoon Session

The second session of the convention was called to order at two o'clock with the opening ceremony, President Boyne, presiding.

Several musical selections were rendered by the National FFA Chorus.

President Boyne conferred the Honorary American Farmer Degree upon Mr. W. A. Roberts, President of the Allis-Chalmers



Twenty-five teachers of vocational agriculture receive the Honorary American Farmer Degree.

Manufacturing Company, after which Mr. Roberts made an address.

Senator Harry Darby and Senator Frank Carlson, both of Kansas, were introduced.

The Honorary American Farmer Degree was conferred upon a number of men by President Boyne.

The presentation of awards in the National Chapter Contest was made by Vice Presidents Schultheis and Ritter.

Following music by the national band, the American Farmer Degree was conferred upon the following candidates by the national officers:

### Alabama

Bobby Boswell, Route 1, Livingston  
 Horace Winfred Davis, Milltown  
 Bobby Fowler, Rt. 2, Ardmore, Tenn.  
 Davis Henry, Hope Hull  
 Roy Hereford, Jr., Faunsdale  
 William Jackson Lasseter, Route 1,  
 Gadsden  
 Ned D. Lee, III, Route 1, Whatley  
 Bill Jack Loyd, Stevenson

Percer Preston Mitchell, Route 2,  
 Opelika  
 W. S. Perryman, Jr., Oak Hill  
 Roy Gene Sims, Enterprise  
 Lavone Smith, RFD 3, Arab

### Arizona

Kent Kempton, Safford  
 Charles Dale Willis, Route 1, Box  
 163, Chandler

**Arkansas**

James W. Arnold, Route 1, Bono  
 Wayne Hartsfield, Route 3, Searcy  
 Donald Hutchinson, Route 1, Swifton  
 Floyd Johnson, Route 1, Black Oak  
 Charles Herman Long, Route 2, Batesville  
 John Dudley Morton, Salem  
 Charles Henry Oxner, Route 1, Lexa  
 Robert Russell, Route 3, Box 208, Camden  
 John Albert Sleppy, Rt. 1, Harrison  
 William Layton Stanley, 1625 Clifton Street, Conway  
 Eugene L. Stillions, Jr., Rt. 2, Earle  
 Maurice Edward Thompson, Route 1, Paragould  
 Dennis E. Trotter, Jr., Route 1, Harrison

**California**

Jacob C. Andresen, 10610 W. Whitesbridge Road, Fresno  
 John Richard Dunbar, 1144 Sonoma Avenue, Santa Rosa  
 Harold Estes, Jr., 4740 Badger Road, Santa Rosa  
 Norman A. Gomes, Route 3, Box 339, Hanford  
 Alvin G. Lewis, Greenview  
 Winfield Scott Montgomery, III, Lockeford  
 Ray Narbaitz, Route 2, Box 775, Firebaugh  
 Eugene Petrie, Flournoy  
 Joseph Russ, IV, Ferndale  
 Rolland Rustan Seegers, Route 2, Box 260, Tracy  
 Wynn Sutfin, Corning  
 Paul Andy Tarailo, 4030 S. Channel Road, Sanger

**Colorado**

Albert Luft, Route 2, Sterling  
 Louis M. Smith, Jr., Route 1, Box 308, Golden

**Connecticut**

Dwight Lyman, Box 142, Talcottville

**Delaware**

Wilson Moore Reed, Wyoming

**Florida**

Jay Counts, Route 2, Box 218, Ocala  
 E. J. Gibbs, Jr., Route 2, Box 560, Pensacola  
 William Dawson Gunter, Jr., Box 278, Live Oak  
 Wayne R. Hanna, Route 1, Box 21-A, Quincy

Clifton R. Lowry, Jay  
 Richard Vernon Morgan, Route 1, Box 23, Ruskin  
 Danial Gibbs Roland, Newberry  
 Thomas Arthur Rowand, IV, Route 1, Box 240, Live Oak  
 Harvey F. Wiggins, Jr., Route 2, Box 77, Live Oak

**Georgia**

Emmitt Alford, Jr., RFD, Statesboro  
 Linton Elliott Barwick, Rt. 3, Adrian  
 Jefferson Billings, Route 1, Colquitt  
 Jefferson Donald Clark, Uvalda  
 Harley Davis, Jr., Route 1, Pearson  
 Billy Dorrough, Route 2, Cordele  
 J. W. Durham, Bluffton  
 James Harvey Jeffcoat, Donalsonville  
 Harry Hightower, RFD 4, Valdosta  
 Floyd Daniel Keith, Jr., RFD 1, Hogansville  
 Robert E. King, Box 55, Blakely  
 Dan Taylor Lingo, Jr., RFD 4, Statesboro  
 Hilmon Logue, RFD 3, Pelham  
 Henry Pope McAvoy, Rayle  
 Levane Noland, Tifton  
 Bobby Smith, Bethlehem  
 Larry Idus Stephenson, Route 1, Hartsfield

**Idaho**

Fred V. Blaser, RFD 2, Rexburg  
 William E. Pease, RR 2, Wilder  
 James E. Wroten, Route 2, Nampa

**Illinois**

George L. Attig, Jr., Reynolds  
 Myron Dean Bluhm, St. Joseph  
 Dick Condrey, RR 2, Oblong  
 Melvin K. Devore, Mulberry Grove  
 Robert Hopkins, Kings  
 William Frederick Hummermeier, Pearl City  
 George I. Inness, RR 3, Galesburg  
 Raymond A. Johnson, RR 1, Momence  
 Louis Klages, RR 4, Freeport  
 Marvin D. Koch, Lena  
 Carroll Dean Newingham, RR 2, Murrayville  
 Robert K. Poppe, Lexington  
 Don Rhein, RR 1, Belleville  
 John R. Rogers, Clinton  
 Reynold Siemsen, Peotone  
 Wayne Edward Speck, Brownfield  
 Leo Stokes, El Paso

**Indiana**

W. Ray Brewer, RR 2, Bluffton  
 A. Wayne Drake, RR 2, Box 182, Bridgeport



Lloyd Franklin Grove, RR 5, Frankfort  
 Richard Dean Hoffman, RR 1, Columbia City  
 Charles Eugene Jackson, RR 3, Columbus  
 James Patrick Moriarty, RR 3, Argos  
 Thomas Richard Read, RR 1, Argos  
 LaMar Eugene Smith, RR2, Hamilton

#### Iowa

David Ernest Birdsall, Rt. 2, Floris  
 Merrold M. Blair, Lake City  
 William George Flint, Rt. 2, Spencer  
 LeRoy Oliver Hansen, Route 3, Iowa Falls  
 Howard L. Linder, RR 2, Sigourney  
 Mickey D. Lott, Jolley  
 Kenneth Doyle Paul, RR 2, Brighton  
 Willis A. Simmons, Hamlin  
 Marvin Arlo Triggs, Mount Ayr  
 LeRoy Woodruff, Indianola

#### Kansas

Leonard Chamberlain, Olpe  
 Mark Kline Drake, Rock  
 Nelson D. Galle, RR 2, Moundridge  
 Leo John Hall, RR 1, Seward  
 Harold Paul Heymann, RFD 1, Burns  
 Billy Ray James, Rt. 5, Clay Center  
 Gary J. Neilan, RR 3, St. Francis

#### Kentucky

William R. Adams, Route 2, Cobb  
 Clifton Ray Bradshaw, Route 1, Nicholasville  
 Clyde Burberry, Lexington  
 Tommy Clasby, Route 4, Lexington  
 James Clarke Gary, Rt. 2, Trenton  
 James Willard Gray, Lamasco  
 Glen Dale Hampton, Rt. 2, Trenton  
 Bertram P. Jones, Fredonia  
 Carl Thomas McNeill, Rt. 6, Mayfield  
 John W. Pirtle, Cecilia  
 Norman Goodwin Wright, Route 5, Paris

#### Louisiana

Andrew Couch, Star Route, Tullos  
 Jimmy Darby, Bethany  
 Wayne Fontenot, Washington  
 Billy Ray Pesnell, Route 3, Ruston  
 Leland C. Scoggins, Anacoco  
 Jerry Lynn Tarver, Sicily Island  
 Henry Gordon Vaught, Box 86, Sicily Island  
 Tommy Duke Williams, Route 2, Box 195, Keithville

#### Maine

Darrell L. Chandler, Presque Island

#### Maryland

Adrian McC. Remsberg, Middletown

#### Massachusetts

Frank Walter Gleason, Heath

#### Michigan

John Lynn Allen, Rt. 1, Williamston  
 Earl T. Barks, Route 2, DeWitt  
 David Pierce Beatty, 4109 Frost Rd., Webberville  
 Wayne L. Collins, Route 1, Reading  
 Harry Allan Foster, RR 3, Niles  
 Donald C. Lawless, Route 1, Grand Ledge  
 Sidney Murphy, Route 4, Charlotte  
 George R. Persons, RR 1, Olivet  
 L. James Squires, 12021 Pennington Road, Britton  
 Amos Weaver, Route 1, Charlotte

#### Minnesota

John W. Conzemius, RR 3, Cannon Falls  
 Daryle E. Dawson, Rushmore  
 Arlon E. Fritsche, Rt. 1, New Ulm  
 Elroy Arnold Gaedy, Rt. 1, Houston  
 Richard T. Goslee, Glenville  
 Roger Joseph Larson, Madison  
 Phillip M. Parsons, RR 2, Northfield  
 George Pfeifer, Route 2, Owatonna  
 Myron Thomas Scholberg, Ortonville  
 Floris M. Thielke, Ortonville

#### Mississippi

Andy Turner Arant, Blaine  
 Monty Clark, Carriere  
 Manly Hayward, Duck Hill  
 Bobby L. Kirk, Route 1, Doddsville  
 J. W. McCurdy, Route 4, Batesville  
 Willard Neal Mitchell, Lodi  
 Drew Derwood Strain, Morgan City

#### Missouri

Jack Eugene Bush, RR 1, King City  
 James Andrew Campbell, RR 5, Richmond  
 Larry D. Dingus, Route 1, Appleton City  
 Owen Duane Gill, Powersville  
 Delbert Vance Hoefer, Poynor  
 Bill G. Hollida, Greenville  
 Billy Lee Johnson, Route 5, Neosho  
 Alan King, Dadeville  
 Jerry R. King, Box 428, Adrian  
 Dale Miles, Route 2, Marshall  
 Harvey Lewis Miller, Jr., Marshfield  
 William C. Whitener, Rt. 1, Fredericktown

#### Montana

Lawrence Cornelius, Ronan  
 Edward L. Reiter, RFD 8, Huntley

**Nebraska**

George J. Gaswick, Jr., Hay Springs  
 Gilbert V. Mattes, Allen  
 Eugene E. Novak, Ord  
 Roger E. Standage, Poole  
 Donald E. Althouse, Rt. 3, Lincoln

**Nevada**

William Jay Wright, Alamo

**New Hampshire**

Roger Winston Purington, North  
 Weare

**New Jersey**

Earl Lewis Snook, McAfee  
 Earl H. Tindall, RD 2, Trenton

**New Mexico**

Carl D. Sims, Salem  
 Jimmie Turnbough, Route 2, Rogers

**New York**

Lawrence H. Adams, South Plymouth  
 Charles W. Anken, Holland Patent  
 Eugene H. Blumer, Pennellville  
 Leon W. Button, Rushville  
 Charles Roger Cerosaletti, RFD 2,  
 Oneonta  
 William Fleming, Vernon Center  
 John Quinn, RD 4, Binghamton

**North Carolina**

Wilbur Leigh Beck, Rt. 2, Lexington  
 Robert G. Cloninger, Rt. 1, Bessemer  
 City  
 Clyde Mitchell Cress, Mt. Ulla  
 Donald Lee Davis, Route 1, Waxhaw  
 Lee Roy Frazier, Rt. 2, Wake Forest  
 Richard Javalanta Freeman, Rt. 1,  
 Star  
 Robert Howard Futrelle, Route 3,  
 Mount Olive  
 David Orson Harper, Rt. 2, Pikeville  
 Palmer Wilson Lee, Rt. 3, Marshville  
 Allen Leonard, Rt. 5, Winston-Salem  
 Ralph Lee Massey, Rt. 5, Reidsville  
 Vance Melvin, Route 1, Fayetteville  
 Rudolph Franklin Miller, Rt. 3, Dunn  
 Donald Larry Moseley, Route 4,  
 Reidsville  
 Ikey Oakley, Rt. 2, Box 61, Walnut  
 Cove  
 John Roy Plyler, Route 2, Matthews  
 Lynn Plyler, Route 1, Waxhaw  
 Josiah Peter Vick, Rt. 3, Nashville  
 Maynard Leroy Waters, Jr., Route  
 1, Box 237, Washington  
 Delano Fulton Whittington, Route 3,  
 Dunn  
 Noel Williams, Route 2, Monroe  
 Frank Monroe Yost, Rt. 2, Salisbury

**North Dakota**

Warner S. Johnson, Tunbridge  
 Dale Longtin, Backoo

**Ohio**

Norman R. Avey, RFD 1, Delaware  
 Eugene D. Bernath, RFD 1, Wauseon  
 James Thomas Davis, RFD 2, Card-  
 ington  
 Larry B. Hill, Sunbury  
 Gerald E. Hoover, RFD 4, Bucyrus  
 James H. Johnson, New Bloomington  
 Robert Eugene Kindell, RFD 1,  
 Union  
 Sherman J. Nicol, RFD 5, Marysville  
 Stephen Andrew Silbaugh, RFD 1,  
 Amanda  
 Glen A. Thiel, RR 3, Upper Sandusky  
 John Andrew Wilson, RFD 3, Forest

**Oklahoma**

Acie Doyle Benedict, Box 143, Brok-  
 en Arrow  
 Charles Burns, Route 1, Chouteau  
 Richard Dreessen, Seward  
 Charles Lester Finch, Boise City  
 Edwin Fisher, Cushing  
 Neil Ham, Route 3, Stillwater  
 Eldon Hendrix, Route 3, Erick  
 Paul Kunneman, Kingfisher  
 John William Schneider, RR 2, Coyle  
 Milton Smith, Fort Cobb  
 Jack D. Stout, Route 1, Stillwater  
 Robert Struck, Kingfisher  
 John Clyde Wearmouth, Route 3,  
 Frederick  
 Bill Wilkerson, Route 1, Dustin

**Oregon**

William Merl Austin, Jr., Route 1,  
 149 Austin Road, Roseburg  
 David Harnisch, Route 2, Box 348,  
 Albany  
 Allen Hughes, Box 1672, Heppner  
 Donald Lyle Rider, Route 1, Box 653,  
 Oregon City

**Pennsylvania**

Richard Steward Deitch, RD 4, Car-  
 lisle  
 Gerald D. Glatfelter, RD 2, Stew-  
 artstown  
 Kennard E. Henley, Jr., Cochranville  
 Robert D. Himes, Rt. 2, Rochester  
 Mills  
 Glenn R. Love, East Waterford  
 John W. Marsteller, Stewartstown  
 Marvin E. Miller, RD 1, Strasburg  
 Kenneth E. Russell, Route 1, Sugar  
 Grove  
 Burd W. Schantz, RD 1, Alburtis

Roy Alvin Weaner, Jr., RD 4, Gettysburg  
 Frank J. Wilson, Star Route, Montrose

### Puerto Rico

Jose Ruben Rivera, Barrio Mata de Cana, Orocovis

### South Carolina

Gene Clary, Route 4, Gaffney  
 Talbert Rudolph Gerald, Rt. 3, Lorris  
 Robert S. Gruber, St. George  
 Robert Weston Logan, Rt. 3, Bishopville  
 Charles Franklin Marshall, Route 5, Box 34, Sumter  
 Henry Emmett McCracken, Jr., Box 42, Bluffton  
 Jack Everette Sellars, Rt. 1, Cowpens

### South Dakota

Loren Lynn Engel, Aurora  
 Lowell Gisselbeck, Castlewood  
 Jack Walter, Groton

### Tennessee

John Bourne, Jr., RFD 2, Adams  
 Robert Boyd, Route 1, Charleston  
 Roy McKinley Brooks, Jr., Greenback  
 Joe Stephens Cooper, Montezuma  
 Wayne Hardy, Route 2, Martha  
 James Walker Harlan, Route 4, Columbia  
 Billy White Myers, Rt. 4, Gainesboro  
 Bobbie Gene Nethery, Rt. 2, Martin  
 Lowell Thomas Rollins, RFD 3, Cleveland  
 Billy Glynne Rummage, Route 1, Columbia  
 Roy Saunders, Jr., Route 2, Clinton  
 John Dee Stem, Route 2, Smyrna  
 Dossie Allen Talley, Route 2, Henderson  
 Jimmy Ussery, Route 7, Columbia

### Texas

Joe Marcus Auld, Jr., Route 1, Kerrville  
 Bobby W. Beathard, Box 297, Kirbyville  
 John Cecil Bullard, Route 2, Gainesville  
 Charles Carlson, Granger  
 Tommy Jack Davidson, Box 264, Crandall  
 Bennie Wendell Edwards, Box 8, O'Donnell  
 W. A. Fielden, Jr., Route 4, Sulphur Springs

Aubrey Jan Fouts, Sagerton  
 Marvin Graf, Route A, Henrietta  
 Bennie R. Hart, RFD 2, Pittsburg  
 Jack Erwin Herzik, Box 188, Schulenburg  
 Raymond Hinders, Route 2, Happy  
 Fred Johnson, Box 39, George West  
 Donald Lee Jones, Route 1, Slaton  
 A. J. Kitten, Route 1, Box 98, Slaton  
 Bobby Kittley, Rule  
 Franklin William Knoll, Route 3, Shamrock  
 J. O. Koehl, Box 4229, College Station  
 Paul Francis Larson, Clifton  
 Oran Little, Schulenburg  
 Weldon McClurg, Route 1, Tulia  
 Garland Ray Marth, Roscoe  
 Leslie Erwin Opperman, Star Route, La Grange  
 Tom G. Parks, Clifton  
 G. T. Parsons, Box 233, Caddo Mills  
 Douglas Prewitt, Magnolia Springs  
 Milton Radke, RFD 2, Hillsboro  
 Henry Wayne Selby, Era  
 Hugh Allan Spring, Route 1, Box 111, Luling  
 Ruben Stringer, Route 1, Box 173, Jasper  
 Jesse Lee Tackett, Route 8, Dublin  
 Robert Thiele, Route 2, Bishop  
 Eugene Voelkel, Star Route, La Grange  
 Jimmy Winfrey, Sulphur Springs  
 Oland Wingate, Whitney  
 Roland Wingate, Whitney  
 A. D. Woody, Jr., Route 1, Iredell  
 Bubba Zwerschke, Star Route, Seadrift

### Utah

Bartell Jensen, 285 West 1st North Street, Richfield  
 Aaron Franklin Richards, Farmington  
 Lowell P. Roberts, Myton

### Vermont

Louis Philip Brouillette, Richford

### Virginia

Robert Bruce Ayers, Route 1, Stuart  
 Herbert Hindle Goodman, Cumberland  
 Andrew J. Kume, RFD 1, Courtland  
 James W. Liskey, Penn Laird  
 Charles L. Marshall, Route 2, Crewe  
 Charles Hugh Poage, RFD 7, Box 662, Roanoke  
 Thos. Chatman Reames, Jr., Amelia  
 William R. Wade, Sedley



**Washington**

Walter Richard Anderson, Enum-  
claw  
Claudio B. Balmelli, Route 3, Box  
130-A, Chehalis  
Albert Leroy Burgraff, Rt. 2, Lynden  
George R. Gamble, Rt. 3, Snohomish  
Larry C. Schmauder, Davenport  
Jack Raymond Schumacher, Route 1,  
Box 288, Battle Ground

**West Virginia**

Linger N. Arnold, Flat Woods  
Daniel B. Boone, Frankford  
Allen Colebank, Morgantown  
Henry A. Kay, Southside  
Russell Lee Mercer, RFD 3, Box 170,  
Hurricane

**Wisconsin**

James Andrew Call, Jr., RR 2, Osseo

Francis R. Hynek, Hillsboro  
Henry Louis Kopp, Galesville  
Raymond Robt. Kuehl, RR 1, Juneau  
Gordon Lehner, RR 3, Mayville  
Phillip Russell Nelson, Balsam Lake  
Merrill V. Pugh, Soldiers Grove  
Kent Charles Quinn, RR 1, Westfield  
Eugene Rautmann, RR 2, Sheboygan  
Falls

Richard Edwin Rudisill, RFD 1,  
Milton

Robert Eugene Snow, Sparta  
Dean R. Walker, Route 3, Wisconsin  
Dells  
Glen D. Wright, RFD 1, Amery

**Wyoming**

Thomas F. Mitich, Route 1, Box 7,  
Newcastle

The meeting adjourned with the closing ceremony.



AMERICAN FARMER DEGREE CEREMONY

Twenty-seventh National FFA Convention, Kansas City, Missouri, October  
11-14, 1954.

**Tuesday, October 12, 1954****Evening Session**

The third session of the convention was called to order at seven twenty-five o'clock with the opening ceremony, President Boyne presiding.

Musical selections were presented by the National Band and Chorus.

The Massing of State Flags by the State Star Farmers was presented, after which the National Vice Presidents presented the Star Farmer Awards for 1954.

The meeting adjourned with the closing ceremony.

**Wednesday, October 13, 1954****Morning Session**

The fourth session of the convention was called to order at nine o'clock with the opening ceremony, President Boyne presiding.

Several musical selections were presented by the Caraway, Arkansas, String Band.

The first item of business was a proposed amendment to the National Constitution. It had been recommended by the Michigan Association to:

Amend Article V, Section D, Item 9, by substituting "3%" in the place of "2%", so the last part of the first sentence in Item 9 would read as follows: "Where State membership exceeds 500, a number in excess of ten, but not more than 3% of the total State membership may be elected (fractions counted to the nearest whole number)."

It was the recommendation of the National Board of Directors and National Board of Student Officers that this amendment be rejected. After considerable discussion it was moved by Mixon of Florida to accept this amendment; motion seconded by Daniels of Vermont. It was then moved by Berry of Oklahoma to table this amendment until the next business session; motion seconded by Hagler of Texas and carried.

President Boyne asked all past national officers to come to the platform and introduce themselves, and then tell the delegates and audience something about their present programs. Those present were: Jimmy Willis, Bill Sorem, Jimmy Dillon, Carl Fought and Hal Davis.

An interview was held by Mr. Frank Atwood, Farm Program Director, Station WTIC, Hartford, Connecticut, with the participants in the International Youth Exchange—Billy Gunter, Hywel Jones and William Wannop. Don Travis was unable to attend the convention.

President Boyne introduced the Honorable S. M. Brownell, Commissioner, U. S. Office of Education, after which Commissioner Brownell gave an address.

The Dramatization of the FFA Creed was presented.

The meeting adjourned with the closing ceremony.

### **Wednesday, October 13, 1954**

#### **Afternoon Session**

The fifth session of the convention was called to order at two o'clock, President Boyne presiding.

President Boyne appointed committees and the meeting then recessed for committee work.

(NOTE: The afternoon session was spent on tours to points of interest in Kansas City by those who were not doing committee work.)

### **Wednesday, October 13, 1954**

#### **Evening Session**

The sixth session of the convention was called to order at eight o'clock with the opening ceremony, President Boyne presiding.

A few musical selections were rendered by the national band and chorus.

Representatives from each of the donors to the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Incorporated were called to the platform and introduced to the convention. Advisor Spanton made a brief address on, "The Future Farmers of America Foundation at Ten." President Boyne then presented a plaque to each of the former Chairmen of the Future Farmers of America Foundation Sponsoring Committee.

Presentation of Future Farmers of American Foundation, Incorporated Awards for 1954 were made by the national officers.

The meeting adjourned with the closing ceremony.

An FFA Amateur Hour was held immediately following the closing ceremony.

### **Thursday, October 14, 1954**

#### **Morning Session**

The seventh session of the convention was called to order at nine o'clock with the opening ceremony, President Boyne presiding.

After music by the national chorus, Central Regional Vice President Harlan Rigney presented his report and moved its adoption; motion seconded by Trumble of Nebraska and carried.





The present and former Chairmen of the Future Farmers of America foundation Sponsoring Committee received special plaques as a part of the Tenth Anniversary Celebration of the Foundation. They are (left to right) David Boyne, National FFA President, who presented the plaques; W. A. Roberts, Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company; C. H. Lang, General Electric Company; Roger M. Kyes, General Motors Corporation; Raymond C. Firestone, Firestone Tire and Rubber Company; John H. Kraft, Kraft Foods Company; and Frank W. Jenks, International Harvester Company.

North Atlantic Regional Vice President Walker James presented his report and moved its adoption; motion seconded by Daniels of Vermont and carried.

The next item of business was the proposed amendment to the Constitution which had been submitted by the Michigan Association. This was to Amend Article V, Section D, Item 9, by substituting "3%" in place of "2%" in the first sentence of Item 9. There was a motion before the house to approve this amendment. A vote was taken and the motion was lost.

It was moved by Hogan of Oklahoma that the National Board of Directors and National Board of Student Officers study this problem that is confronting the Michigan Association and a few of the other State Associations, and suggest a solution to the States concerned at a future date; motion seconded by Dunham of Oregon and carried.

The next item of business was a proposed amendment to the Constitution which was submitted by the New Mexico Association. It was recommended by that association to:

Amend Article VI, Section B, the second sentence, by striking out the words "... after that date, and the application as received

will be considered as the final basis for selection." The amended sentence would then read, "No additions or corrections will be accepted."

It was the recommendation of the National Board of Directors and National Board of Student Officers that this change be approved. It was moved by Hagler of Texas, to approve this amendment to the Constitution; motion seconded by Simmons of New Mexico and carried.

Eugene Mixon of Florida presented the report of the Program of Work Committee and moved its adoption; motion seconded by Campbell of California and carried.

Mr. Bruce Force of the Osborne Company was presented, after which he gave a short report on the official FFA calendar.

Southern Regional Vice President Charles Ritter presented his report and moved its adoption; motion seconded by O'Dell of Mississippi and carried.

Student Secretary Hunt Zumwalt presented his report and moved its adoption; motion seconded by Lahlum of North Dakota and carried.

After a few musical selections by the Farmersville, Illinois, Dixieland Swing Band, Mr. Lano Barron, Editor of The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine gave a report on the magazine.

Richard Arnold of Michigan presented the report of the FFA Foundation Committee and moved its adoption; motion seconded by Hebbert of Nebraska and carried.

Mr. Harry Andrews, Assistant Manager of the Future Farmers Supply Service was presented to the convention, after which he gave a report on the Supply Service.

Jerry Moss of Arkansas presented the report of the Public Speaking Contest Committee and moved its adoption. Motion seconded by Galle of Kansas and carried.

Roy Boyd of Alabama presented the report of the Official Manual Committee and moved its adoption. Motion seconded by North of Arizona and carried.

Joe Moore of Tennessee presented the report of the Chapter Contest Committee and moved its adoption; motion seconded by Bunker of Connecticut and carried.

Herman Felstehausen of South Dakota presented the report of the Public Relations Committee and moved its adoption; motion seconded by Nonaka of Hawaii and carried.

Richard James of Delaware presented the report of the Convention Committee and moved its adoption; motion seconded by Alago of Puerto Rico and carried.

Leon Smith of New York presented the report of the Auditing Committee and moved its adoption; motion seconded by Cole of West Virginia and carried.

Dr. A. W. Tenney, National FFA Executive Secretary, presented his report. Milner of Ohio moved to accept the report; motion seconded by Bishop of Connecticut and carried.

The meeting adjourned with the closing ceremony.

## **Thursday, October 14, 1954**

### **Afternoon Session**

The final session of the convention was called to order at one-thirty o'clock with the opening ceremony, President Boyne presiding.

Several musical selections were rendered by the Holbrook, Nebraska, String Band.

Jon Hagler of Texas presented the report of the Magazine Committee and moved its adoption; motion seconded by Trumble of Nebraska and carried.

Robert Worley of Pennsylvania presented the report of the Proceedings Committee and moved its adoption; motion seconded by Fahning of Minnesota and carried.

Robert Wilson of Utah presented the report of the American Farmer Committee and moved its adoption; motion seconded by Faure of California and carried.

Lawrence Widner of New Mexico presented the report of the Resolutions Committee and moved its adoption. Motion seconded by Wood of Washington and carried.

Pahl of Oregon moved that the National FFA Dues for 1954-55 be continued at ten cents per member; motion seconded by Gamage of Virginia and carried.

Executive Secretary Tenney presented the budget for 1954-55. It was moved by Benton of Georgia that the report on the budget be accepted; motion seconded by Galle of Kansas and carried.



# National FFA Budget

JULY 1, 1954 THROUGH JUNE 30, 1955

## Anticipated Revenue:

Membership dues .....	\$38,000.00
Royalties .....	20,000.00
Old Mill .....	2,000.00
Supply Service—Rent .....	1,500.00
Supply Service—Grant .....	7,500.00
Appropriated from Surplus.....	13,325.00
Miscellaneous .....	125.00

Total anticipated revenue..... \$82,450.00

## Estimated Disbursements:

I. Travel .....	\$20,400.00
II. Convention .....	15,790.00
III. American Farmer Keys.....	3,800.00
IV. Printing .....	4,400.00
V. National Office .....	20,860.00
VI. National Camp and Old Mill.....	2,300.00
VII. Judging Expenses .....	500.00
VIII. The National Future Farmer.....	10,000.00
IX. Contingent .....	4,400.00

Total estimated disbursements..... \$82,450.00

Philip Pagay of Hawaii presented a Ukulele Solo.



1954-55 NATIONAL FFA OFFICERS

(Left to right)—W. T. Spanton, Advisor; Billy Gunter, President; Philip Brouillette, Student Secretary; Jay Wright, Vice President; Charles W. Anken, Vice President; Bobby Futrelle, Vice President; Lowell Gisselbeck, Vice President; and A. W. Tenney, Executive Secretary. Dowell J. Howard, Treasurer, was not present.

Ring of Ohio presented the report of the Nominating Committee and moved its adoption; motion seconded by Ringo of Kentucky and carried. The candidates for national office were called to the platform. There being no nominations from the floor, it was moved by Linder of Iowa that the candidates be elected to national office; motion seconded by Michel of Wyoming and carried.

The newly elected President, Billy Gunter, presented David Boyne with the gavel he used to open the convention.

President-elect Gunter then presented each of the past officers with official national officer pins and certificates.

The convention was adjourned sine die at 2:30 o'clock with the closing ceremony.



Billy Gunter, National President, 1954-55 (left) presents David Boyne, National President, 1953-54, with the gavel he used to open the convention.

## Committee Reports

### Report of Auditing Committee

We, the members of the Auditing Committee, have inspected the books kept by the National Treasurer, Dr. Dowell J. Howard, and audited by Leach, Calkins and Scott, Certified Public Accountants, for the period July 1, 1953 through June 30, 1954 and find that they are accurate and in proper order.

Respectfully submitted,

LEON SMITH, New York (Chairman)  
JAY WRIGHT, Nevada  
WILLIAM E. MURROW, Maryland  
JAMES MICHEL, Wyoming  
JACKIE MARSH, South Carolina  
DAVID ALLEN, Vermont  
DAVID MILLER, Virginia

### Report of the Committee on American Farmer Applications

We, the members of the American Farmer Committee have reviewed the application form for the American Farmer Degree, as revised by the National Board of Directors and National Board of Student Officers. The committee recommends that the convention accept the revisions.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT B. WILSON, Utah  
(Chairman)  
JIM HOGAN, Oklahoma  
DONALD KLINKERMAN, Colorado  
JERRY RINGO, Kentucky  
ROGER LOCANDRO, New Jersey  
PAUL DANIELS, Vermont

### Report of the Committee on National Chapter Contest

The delegate body at the 1953 national convention authorized the appointment of a committee to work during the year in completely revising the national chapter contest. The delegates further authorized that the committee's recommendations be reviewed and approved by the National Board of Student Officers and National



Board of Directors of the FFA before submitting them to the chapter contest committee at this convention.

I am pleased to report that this procedure was followed in full. Our chapter contest committee has reviewed the recommendations and the proposed plan and wish to thank those responsible for the new plan and their outstanding work. A copy of their report is available at the secretary's desk for your information. Our committee has made only a few minor changes in the plan. We regret that due to the shortage of time we will be unable to review the report today.

Due to the tremendous amount of work which has been devoted to the preparation of the report, and in view of our committee's enthusiastic approval of the suggested plan, we hereby recommend its adoption for the year 1954-55.

Respectfully submitted,

JOE MOORE, Tennessee (Chairman)  
JAMES BOYNE, Michigan  
JOSE R. RIVERA, Puerto Rico  
JERRY SIMMONS, New Mexico  
ALLEN COLEBANK, West Virginia  
RAYMOND MORRELL, Rhode Island  
DAVE SCHUY, Washington  
BILLY ROGERS, Louisiana

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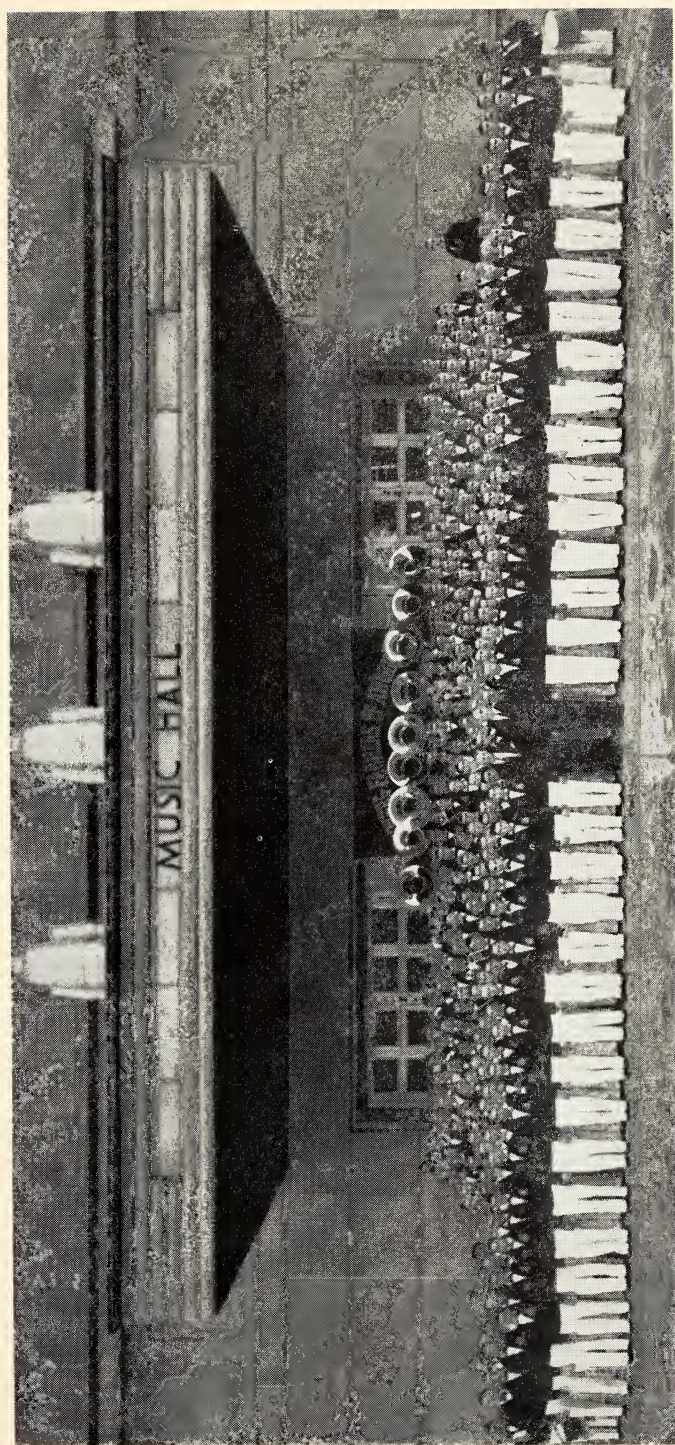
### **Report of the Committee on the National Convention**

We, the members of the committee on national convention, convened and offer the following recommendations:

1. That more time be devoted to the transaction of business at the National Convention.
2. That an exhibit contest between the States be held to encourage more entries at the national convention.
3. That in the interest of public relations, more parents and business men be encouraged to attend this convention.
4. That the committee appointments be made known at the beginning of the convention so delegates can prepare for their committee work.
5. That the younger members of the FFA be encouraged to attend the convention.

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD JAMES, Delaware  
(Chairman)  
GEORGE LANGEMO, Minnesota  
JOHN HANES, Missouri  
WINTHROP RICHARDS, Maine  
CHARLIE TRUMBLE, Nebraska



NATIONAL FFA BAND AND CHORUS



### **Report of the Committee on FFA Foundation**

As a committee representing the 371,592 Future Farmers of America in the 50 State and Territorial Associations, which make up the National Future Farmers of America organization, we have examined the Report of the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Inc., and would like to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude for the cooperation and faith they have shown our organization.

The committee would like to thank the donors for increasing the opportunities of the Future Farmer organization through their contributions. Our special thanks to Mr. W. A. Roberts, President of the Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company for serving as Chairman of the Foundation Sponsoring Committee this past year.

Again our thanks to the donors for their continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD ARNOLD, Michigan  
(Chairman)

WILSON M. REED, Delaware

RALPH G. BUNKER, JR., Connecticut

EARL DE COSTRO, Hawaii

GARLAND BOND, Alabama

NELSON GALLE, Kansas

MELVYN FAHNING, Minnesota

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### **Report of the National FFA Magazine Committee**

We, the National Magazine Committee, hereby submit the following recommendations:

1. To continue to encourage new subscribers to give correct addresses, consisting of name, route and box number, town and State. Members who do not receive the magazine promptly should write to the magazine.

2. That the magazine be put on a monthly or semi-monthly basis as soon as it is financially possible.

3. To encourage all Future Farmers to send in articles, making sure that articles are correct and prompt.

4. To encourage all States to discuss magazine at their respective State conventions.

5. To encourage all States to strive toward 100 per cent subscription.

6. To welcome suggestions for improvement in the form of letters from chapter members. The magazine belongs to the FFA and these suggestions will be welcome at all times.

7. The placement of the national magazine in professional offices, etc. by the local chapters.



8. That the editor, the Student Officers, and the Board of Directors be given full authority to make any and all changes deemed necessary and advisable for the betterment of the magazine.

The committee wishes to thank the national officers for their backing of the magazine. Our thanks go also to Mr. Lano Barron and his staff for their untiring efforts on behalf of the magazine.

Respectfully submitted,

JON HAGLER, Texas (Chairman)  
GILMORE DAHL, Kansas  
JOE FAURE, California  
EMMETT BARKER, Tennessee  
GEORGE WOOD, Washington  
J. BRADLEY TATE, Iowa  
JERRY FUHRMAN, Pennsylvania  
NEIL MILNER, Ohio

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### **Report of the Official Manual Committee**

We, the members of the Official Manual Committee, recommend the following revisions:

1. That the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag be changed to the official form as authorized by Congress.
2. That a section be included in the Official Manual on television programs for FFA and that the said recommendation be included with radio and news writing, under the general topic of Public Relations.

We recommend that any Constitutional change made by the 1954 Convention be included in the next publication.

We further recommend that the Official Manual not be revised into a Teacher's Manual but be left as a reference for FFA members.

Respectfully submitted,

ROY BOYD, Alabama (Chairman)  
FREDDY NORTH, Arizona  
THOMAS NIX, Massachusetts  
PAUL YARBROUGH, Georgia  
RAY BREWER, Indiana  
CLAIR BOSEN, Idaho

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### **Report of the Public Relations Committee**

We, the Committee on Public Relations for 1954-55 go on record as recommending the following:

1. That local chapters be encouraged to select outstanding members and representatives to speak before civic groups, etc.
2. That local chapters make a special effort to observe Na-

tional FFA Week by use of newspaper coverage, display ads, advertisement folders, window displays, radio and television, and other farm and civic groups.

3. That State and local associations participate in radio and television programs throughout the entire year.

4. That the third addition of the pictorial brochure "Future Farmers of America . . . in Action," be completed at the earliest convenience of the public relations department.

5. That local chapters make a determined effort to see that the *National FUTURE FARMER Magazine* is placed in high school, college and public libraries.

6. That our national officers continue the policy of a good-will tour and that State associations and local chapters also adopt this policy.

7. That delegates, award winners, guests of luncheons, breakfasts and dinners express their appreciation to the Foundation donors by personal vote.

8. That local chapters invite local business men and agricultural leaders to chapter activities.

9. That each FFA member subscribe to the *National FUTURE FARMER Magazine*.

Respectfully submitted,

HERMAN FELSTEHUSEN,  
(Chairman) South Dakota  
ADRIAN McC. REMSBURG, Maryland  
MAX M. BERRY, Oklahoma  
VERNON B. CARDWELL, Colorado  
DOUGLAS MOORE, Arkansas  
DON PATTERSON, Montana  
JON BALL, Illinois  
SHERM CARNEY, New Hampshire

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### **Report of the Proceedings Committee**

We, the Committee on Proceedings for 1954, hereby submit the following report:

We recommend that this year's Proceedings follow the general outline of last year's Proceedings with the following changes and additions:

1. That the following pictures accompanied by appropriate articles be included:

- a. Dramatizations of the FFA Creed
- b. A. D. P. Heeney
- c. W. A. Roberts
- d. S. M. Brownell

- e. FFA Amateur Hour
- f. New Speakers' Stand
- g. Band and Chorus members and directors
- h. Star Farmer of America
- i. Firestone Show

2. That the cover of the Convention Proceedings follow the same general pattern of the Convention Program.

3. That a page acknowledging all banquets sponsored by businesses for the benefit of delegates, band and chorus members, advisors, national officers and other personages be drawn up if all information on such banquets is available.

We give the Board of Directors full power to make any necessary changes in this report.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT L. WORLEY, Pennsylvania  
(Chairman)

H. RANDOLPH LIVELY, JR.,  
Louisiana

VANCE G. BODEHAUSEN, Missouri

BILL YETTER, Wyoming

JAMES OUTLAND, Kentucky

CHARLES JACKSON, Indiana

## **Report of Committee on A Guide for Local Chapters to Use in Developing the 1954-55 Program of Work**

We, the committee on the 1954-55 Program of Work, recommend that the following revised items, goals, and ways and means be used in planning the chapter program of work:

Item	Goals	Ways and Means
<b>I. SUPERVISED FARMING</b>		
1. Producing food and other farm products	100% member participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Every member to have a comprehensive farming program consisting of two or more productive enterprises.</li> <li>b. Encourage members to have a home garden.</li> <li>c. Conduct a tour of farming programs.</li> <li>d. Conduct farm surveys to determine farming capabilities.</li> <li>e. Establish goals for labor income and production.</li> <li>f. Encourage student ownership of farming programs.</li> </ul>



Item	Goals	Ways and Means
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>g. Arrange for loans through regular commercial firms or through chapter loan fund.</li> <li>h. Rent chapter equipment to members.</li> <li>i. Conduct production contest.</li> <li>j. Encourage members to maintain and operate farm equipment.</li> <li>k. Provide public recognition for outstanding farming program.</li> <li>l. Assist members to obtain facilities for the supervised farming program.</li> <li>m. Give award to member of each class with most outstanding farming program.</li> <li>n. Give Star Farmer Award.</li> <li>o. Give Dairy Farming Award.</li> </ul>
2. Increasing size of farming programs	100% member participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Each member to develop a farming program to the extent of his opportunities for establishment in full-time farming.</li> <li>b. Schedule student and former student guest speakers at chapter meetings to emphasize supervised farming programs.</li> <li>c. Have chapter farming program committee assist Green Hands in planning farming programs.</li> <li>d. Stimulate size and number of farming programs through use of an adult advisory committee.</li> <li>e. Encourage cooperation between student, parents and teacher in development of a long-time farming program.</li> </ul>
3. Improving livestock and crop production	100% member participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Use recommended and tested practices in regard to seed, fertilizer and quality of livestock.</li> <li>b. Test seed, soil and milk.</li> <li>c. Spray crops and livestock with approved material.</li> <li>d. Aid members to obtain suitable seed and improved livestock.</li> <li>e. Maintain purebred sires for breeding.</li> </ul>

Item	Goals	Ways and Means
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>f. Use proven sires for breeding.</li> <li>g. Use recommended feeding practices.</li> <li>h. Cull poor animals.</li> <li>i. Use artificial insemination associations.</li> <li>j. Form livestock and crop improvement associations among members.</li> <li>k. Post list of livestock and seed sources.</li> <li>l. Follow recommended irrigation practices.</li> <li>m. Control weeds.</li> </ul>
4. Preventing livestock losses	100% member participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Urge careful handling of all livestock by members.</li> <li>b. Protect livestock through vaccination.</li> <li>c. Eliminate farm hazards.</li> <li>d. Improve loading and shipping facilities.</li> <li>e. Control growth of poisonous or noxious plants.</li> <li>f. Improve housing facilities.</li> <li>g. Use strict sanitation practices.</li> <li>h. Control poultry, parasites and diseases.</li> </ul>
5. Farm Management practices	100% member participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Urge the keeping of accurate farm records.</li> <li>b. Improve management practices.</li> <li>c. Urge sound soil conservation practices.</li> <li>d. Make Soil &amp; Water Management award.</li> <li>e. Use crop and livestock insurance for self protection.</li> </ul>
<b>II. COOPERATION</b>		
1. Providing experience in cooperative effort	100% member participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Encourage members to cooperate in chapter activities.</li> <li>b. Encourage members to become familiar with local, State and national cooperatives.</li> </ul>
2. Investigate legal aspects and liabilities of chapter cooperatives	100% member participation	Urge chapters to secure legal counsel.
3. Cooperate with civic clubs, agricultural agencies and other organizations	100% member participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Have chapter members appear on programs of other organizations.</li> <li>b. Participate in activities</li> </ul>

Item	Goals	Ways and Means
		sponsored by other organizations, such as scrap collections, the prevention of fires and community clean-up campaigns.
		c. Assist with fairs and shows.
		d. Become members of other worthwhile organizations.
4. Assist in promoting world-wide understanding and improvement of agriculture	100% member participation	Cooperate with recognized agencies such as CROP and CARE.
<b>III. COMMUNITY SERVICE</b>		
1. Stress reconditioning of farm machinery and equipment	100% member participation	a. Have chapter members service, repair, and adjust machinery and equipment. b. Encourage members to protect farm machinery from weather.
2. Guarding and protecting life and property	Chapter conduct safety program	a. Conduct fire and accident prevention surveys. b. Devote special meetings to farm safety. c. Show safety films to farm groups. d. Present safety programs to civic clubs. e. Display safety posters. f. Sponsor radio and TV programs on safety. g. Prepare appropriate releases for press on safety. h. Sponsor Fire Prevention Week. i. Conduct community clean-up drives. j. Emphasize farm safety at school assembly. k. Distribute farm safety literature to farmers. l. Keep first aid measures available. m. Present farm safety award to member who does the best work in safety promotion.
3. Conserving resources	100% member participation	a. Plant trees. b. Build and repair terraces. c. Run contour lines. d. Construct drainage diversion ditches. e. Construct grass waterways and check dams. f. Construct farm ponds. g. Obtain legume seed for farms.



Item	Goals	Ways and Means
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>h. Practice strip cropping.</li> <li>i. Make farm surveys.</li> <li>j. Set up a demonstration farm.</li> <li>k. Encourage wise use of fertilizers.</li> <li>l. Publicize the need for conservation.</li> <li>m. Send delegates to camp to learn more about conservation practices.</li> <li>n. Offer awards to members who achieve most in conservation.</li> <li>o. Develop wildlife areas.</li> <li>p. Plant food crops for wildlife.</li> <li>q. Provide wildlife feeding stations.</li> <li>r. Cooperate with wildlife officers.</li> </ul>
4. Maintaining farm buildings and equipment	100% member participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Encourage all members to discover and make needed repairs.</li> <li>b. Sponsor clean-up and paint-up campaigns.</li> </ul>
5. General	100% member participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Improve school facilities and landscape grounds.</li> <li>b. Sponsor campaigns for the eradication of pests and rodents.</li> <li>c. Sponsor educational programs.</li> <li>d. Contribute to charitable organizations.</li> <li>e. Promote community landscaping.</li> <li>f. Sponsor going-to-church campaign.</li> </ul>
<b>IV. LEADERSHIP</b>		
1. Advancing members to higher degrees	Advance members to appropriate degrees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Urge careful and early explanation of requirements for degrees to Green Hands and members.</li> <li>b. Have official ceremonies used for the conferring of degrees.</li> </ul>
2. Chapter library	Have an adequate library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Have members and others contribute books.</li> <li>b. Purchase books for library.</li> <li>c. Purchase magazine subscriptions.</li> <li>d. Borrow books from circulating libraries.</li> </ul>

Item	Goals	Ways and Means
3. Public Speaking	100% member participation	a. Hold a contest with all members participating. b. Chapter winner to appear in District contest. c. Present local Chapter Public Speaking award.
4. Parliamentary procedure	Conduct meetings according to accepted parliamentary procedure	a. Provide parliamentary training to all members. b. Enter parliamentary procedure contest. c. Provide each member with a booklet on parliamentary procedure. d. Elect a chapter parliamentarian.
5. Programs of Work	Have a written program of work	a. Revise program of work early. b. Form standing committees early in the year. c. Assign each member to one or more committees. d. Encourage member participation in developing the program of work. e. Submit program to chapter for discussion and approval. f. Print and distribute programs of work to all members and others who should receive it. g. Send program of work to State Association. h. Prepare and post activity calendar. i. Have each member serve on one or more committees to carry out program.
6. Leadership training	100% member participation	a. Participate in State and district leadership training schools and conferences. b. Provide at least one local leadership training school or conference during the year. c. Participate in leadership training activities at State FFA Camp. d. Attend leadership training programs sponsored by other organizations.
7. Public Relations	Keep the public informed on what the FFA is and does	a. Make extensive use of local, county and State newspapers. b. Obtain more and better pictures of FFA work for use in publicity.

Item	Goals	Ways and Means
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. Present radio and television programs.</li> <li>d. Sponsor at least one local display.</li> <li>e. Keep in touch with former FFA chapter members.</li> <li>f. Encourage the use of official FFA clothing by members.</li> <li>g. Provide subscriptions to <i>The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine</i> to influential persons.</li> <li>h. Provide speakers for civic and other organizations.</li> <li>i. Present programs at school assemblies.</li> <li>j. Invite guests to attend meetings.</li> <li>k. Elect honorary members.</li> <li>l. Have public showings of FFA motion pictures.</li> <li>m. Invite public on tour to observe farming programs of members.</li> </ul>
8. National FFA Week	100% member participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Observe National FFA Week during the week of George Washington's birthday.</li> <li>b. Use material supplied by the State Association in the promotion of FFA Week.</li> <li>c. Have appropriate official proclaim National FFA Week.</li> </ul>

## V. EARNINGS AND SAVINGS

1. Thrift	100% member participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Prepare a chapter budget.</li> <li>b. Keep chapter funds in a local bank or in school account.</li> <li>c. Organize an FFA thrift bank.</li> <li>d. Have treasurer make a report at each meeting.</li> <li>e. Call for periodic reports from auditing committee.</li> <li>f. Members and chapter purchase United States Savings Bonds.</li> <li>g. Emphasize thrift at one or more chapter meetings.</li> <li>h. Encourage members to make regular thrift deposits.</li> <li>i. Encourage members to invest in farming.</li> </ul>
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Item	Goals	Ways and Means
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>j. Present awards to members who have done outstanding work in thrift activities.</li> <li>k. Check candidates earnings before raising to next higher degree.</li> <li>l. Distribute U. S. Treasury literature on how and where to buy United States Savings Bonds.</li> </ul>
2. Earning money for the local chapter	Earn enough money to finance chapter activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Have a group farm production enterprise.</li> <li>b. Operate concessions.</li> <li>c. Win contest and fair awards.</li> <li>d. Sell magazine subscriptions and books.</li> <li>e. Assess chapter dues.</li> <li>f. Sell seeds, plants, and nursery stock.</li> <li>g. Rent chapter equipment.</li> <li>h. Work for farmers.</li> <li>i. Sell greeting cards.</li> <li>j. Cooperate in sale of FFA calendar.</li> </ul>

## VI. CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

1. Official Manual	100% of members have access to Official Manual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Have every Green Hand purchase a Manual.</li> <li>b. Each other member to own a Manual.</li> <li>c. Study the Manual.</li> </ul>
2. Official Secretary and Treasurer Books	Chapters use both books	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Purchase books from Future Farmers Supply Service.</li> <li>b. Have books kept up to date by officers.</li> <li>c. Have the secretary and treasurer books completed and filed as a part of permanent chapter records.</li> </ul>
3. Official meeting paraphernalia, equipment and supplies	Provide standard materials with which to work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Acquire all necessary paraphernalia and equipment.</li> <li>b. Arrange all paraphernalia before starting meeting.</li> <li>c. Arrange for adequate storage space for equipment.</li> <li>d. Wear official jackets at meetings.</li> <li>e. Construct special officer stands for use during meetings.</li> <li>f. Have standard wall brackets made so officer stations may be placed on wall when desired.</li> </ul>



Item	Goals	Ways and Means
4. Official Ceremonies	Use proper official ceremonies at all meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All officers to learn and rehearse their parts.</li> <li>b. Provide special training on ceremonies for new officers.</li> <li>c. Prepare appropriate demonstrations.</li> </ul>
5. State Conventions	Chapter participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Have delegate elected to attend State convention.</li> <li>b. Counsel delegates prior to State convention.</li> <li>c. Urge each candidate for the State Farmer Degree to attend.</li> <li>d. Prepare members to assist in the convention program.</li> <li>e. Have members in State FFA Band and Chorus.</li> <li>f. Compete in State contests.</li> </ul>
6. Meetings	Every member attend 100% of chapter meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Have regular chapter meetings preferably twice monthly.</li> <li>b. Call special meetings as needed.</li> <li>c. Hold at least two summer meetings.</li> <li>d. Schedule regular executive committee meetings.</li> <li>e. Prepare well-planned programs before meetings.</li> <li>f. Have one good entertainment feature for all members at each meeting.</li> <li>g. Urge attendance of members at federation or district meetings.</li> <li>h. Provide refreshments frequently.</li> <li>i. Post agenda on bulletin board before meetings.</li> <li>j. Invite guest speakers.</li> <li>k. Invite interested persons to meetings.</li> <li>l. Have a special theme for most meetings, such as National FFA Week, citizenship and thrift.</li> <li>m. Establish goals for membership attendance.</li> <li>n. Have frequent committee reports to keep members informed.</li> <li>o. Use each member on a meeting program at least once during year.</li> <li>p. Elect honorary members in recognition of service to chapter and community.</li> <li>q. Hold a special meeting for parents.</li> </ul>

Item	Goals	Ways and Means
<b>VII. SCHOLARSHIP</b>		
1. Improved Scholarship	100% of members to attain a satisfactory scholarship record	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Develop appropriate scholarship goals for chapter members.</li> <li>b. Award suitable prizes to members with outstanding scholarship.</li> <li>c. Post honor rolls on bulletin board.</li> <li>d. Assign big brothers to help others.</li> <li>e. Devote special meetings to stress the importance of good scholarship and how to study.</li> <li>f. Require good scholarship for eligibility to be elected as a chapter officer.</li> <li>g. Encourage members to qualify for the honor roll and for honor societies.</li> <li>h. Check grades when reports are made and give necessary aid.</li> <li>i. Conduct special study periods and have advanced students serve as tutors.</li> <li>j. Invite former members now in college to give talks on the value of scholarship and of graduating from high school.</li> </ul>
<b>VIII. RECREATION</b>		
1. Supervised Recreation	100% member participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Sponsor parent-and-son banquet.</li> <li>b. Sponsor recreation program in the local community.</li> <li>c. Organize a camping trip for the chapter.</li> <li>d. Encourage chapter members to attend State camp.</li> <li>e. Plan social parties.</li> <li>f. Engage in athletic competition.</li> <li>g. Conduct an educational tour.</li> <li>h. Provide recreational facilities for chapter members.</li> <li>i. Organize a chapter string band or quartet.</li> </ul>
<b>IX. GENERAL</b>		
1. Membership	Every eligible boy a member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Urge all boys who are enrolled in vocational agri-</li> </ul>

## Item

## Goals

## Ways and Means

- culture to become members of the FFA.
- b. Encourage boys who have completed high school to retain membership in the FFA as long as they are eligible.

Respectfully submitted,

EUGENE A. MIXON, Florida

(Chairman)

FRED H. TYNER, Mississippi

MARSHALL WARNICK,

South Dakota

SHERM SNOW, Idaho

BOB DEBRAGA, Nevada

EUGENE JENSEN, North Dakota

DARRELL CHANDLER, Maine

JOSE A. ALAGO, Puerto Rico

### Report of Committee on Resolutions

We, the committee on resolutions for 1954, on behalf of the Future Farmers of America extend our most sincere thanks and expressions of appreciation to the following persons and organizations who participated in or contributed to the success of the 27th national convention:

1. To the 1953-54 national officers of the 27th national convention for their untiring efforts and unselfish work in planning and conducting the convention in a most commendable manner.

2. To the members of the National Board of Directors for their able supervision and assistance in advancing the FFA.

3. To the members of the Kansas City Advisory Committee for their continuing assistance in making this year's convention successful.

4. To all railroads and their special representatives who are stimulating FFA efforts with valuable educational awards.

5. To the Honorable William E. Kemp, Mayor of Kansas City, and all Kansas citizens for their most hearty and warm welcome.

6. To all donors to the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Inc. and all others who actually contributed toward making this, our 27th national convention, a success.

7. To Mr. Clarence Hoff, Director of the Municipal Auditorium for the sincerely cooperative spirit he has always exhibited toward the national FFA organization.

8. To the businessmen and officials, and the management of the Municipal Auditorium for their efforts and services rendered in making this a most worthwhile trip to Kansas City.



9. To all States supplying members of the National Band, and to Dr. Henry S. Brunner, Pennsylvania State College, for his able conducting; and also to the well-organized National Chorus and their director, Dr. James W. Hatch, Associate State Supervisor of Agricultural Education, New York. Each individual member of these organizations is to be especially commended.

10. To all companies who cooperated in the supplying of authorized general merchandise, banners, rings, emblems, stationery, etc.

11. To all individuals and organizations who participated in furnishing entertainment to participants of the 27th national convention.

12. To all judges, timekeepers and Future Farmers who participated in the public speaking and national chapter contests.

13. To all organizations and companies from which participants in the 1953-54 national FFA convention have benefited.

14. To all honored guests of the 27th national convention.

15. To all magazines, radio companies and newspapers who have so generously publicized the events transpiring at this convention.

16. To all hotels and other housing facilities who have accommodated our FFA representatives.

17. To all donors of prizes not previously mentioned.

18. To all other individuals serving the FFA and assisting with the 27th national convention.

19. To the representatives taking part in the impressive massing of the State flag ceremony.

20. To the Caraway, Arkansas, String Band; Tommy Sanguinetti of Linden, California; Farmersville, Illinois, Dixieland Swing Band; and the Holbrook, Nebraska, String Band, for the excellent entertainment furnished during the convention.

21. To visiting youth groups and delegations from foreign countries who visited our national convention.

22. To all the people who attended the 27th national convention.

23. To all companies who were hosts to the FFA boys at their plants.

24. To the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce and also the American Royal Association.

25. To Mr. W. A. Roberts, Chairman of the Sponsoring Committee of the FFA Foundation, Inc., for his untiring efforts in behalf of the Foundation and for his inspiration through his participation in this convention.

26. To His Excellency A. D. P. Heeney, Canadian Ambassador for his presence and expression of friendship between our people.

27. To Honorable S. M. Brownell, Commissioner, U. S. Office of Education, for his encouraging address.

28. To all participating chapters and personnel who directed the Dramatization of the Creed, we extend our appreciation for the impressive ceremony.

29. To all participants and directors who took part in the Amateur Hour, we express our gratitude.

30. To Mr. Raymond Firestone and his company for sponsoring the magnificent performance.

31. To the Rocky Gap Chapter of Virginia for the unique Rostrum presented to the national organization.

32. To the State associations who have prepared exhibits.

33. To the Past National FFA Officers, we wish to express a note of appreciation.

34. To Mr. Robert D. McMillen, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, for his presence at our convention.

Respectfully submitted,

LAWRENCE WIDNER, New Mexico  
(Chairman)

EARL L. SNOOK, New Jersey  
CARL E. GREGORY, New York  
VICTOR HARTZOG, South Carolina  
DALE M. HERBERT, Nebraska  
NOLAN MANGELSON, Utah

### **Report of the Nominating Committee**

We, the Nominating Committee, do hereby submit the following candidates for National FFA Officers for the year 1954-55. After having given careful and deliberate consideration to all applicants, we offer the following slate of candidates for the delegates' consideration:

President.....William D. Gunter, Live Oak, Florida  
Student Secretary.....L. Philip Brouillette, Richford, Vermont  
Vice Presidents

North Atlantic....Charles W. Anken, Holland Patent, New York

Southern.....Bobby Futrelle, Mt. Olive, North Carolina

Central.....Lowell Gisselbeck, Castlewood, South Dakota

Pacific.....Jay Wright, Alamo, Nevada

Advisor.....W. T. Spanton, Washington, D. C.

Executive Secretary.....A. W. Tenney, Washington, D. C.

Treasurer.....D. J. Howard, Richmond, Virginia

Respectfully submitted,

DALE RING, Ohio (Chairman)  
JAMES CAMPBELL, California  
TERRELL BENTON, Georgia  
HOWARD L. LINDER, Iowa  
DENTON O'DELL, Mississippi  
HAROLD R. BISHOP, Connecticut  
LARRY ROYER, Illinois  
GILBERT LEVEILLE, Massachusetts  
DAN DUNHAM, Oregon



Mr. W. A. Roberts

## W. A. ROBERTS

President, Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company

"In the course of my lifetime, which spans a little time more than this century, I have seen the harvesting of most field crops pass from hand work to machine work. I have seen the threshing of grain go from the old flail, oxen horsepower method to the modern combine. We have seen in the last fifty to seventy-five years more progress made in the growing and harvesting of grain, than was made in five thousand years up to 1875 or 1900. An old Egyptian, had he been able to set himself down in a harvest field in the United States one hundred years ago, would have been pretty much at home because the methods used then were very much the same methods that he had been accustomed to five thousand years ago in the Nile Valley.

"I would like to repeat that it is the vocational agriculture program that has, in my honest opinion, contributed more than almost any other one factor in making this progress possible. Of



course they could not have done it without mechanization and soil conservation practices which they teach, and all the other things that make up the program.

"The leaders in agriculture today and the leaders in business and the professions today in a great percentage of cases have a farm background. I can tell you that the President of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, Mr. Craig, is a Rich Hill, Bates County, Missouri, farm boy. The President of International Harvester, John McCaffrey, was born on a farm in southern Indiana. The President of General Electric Company, Ralph Cordonier, was born on a farm in the State of Washington.

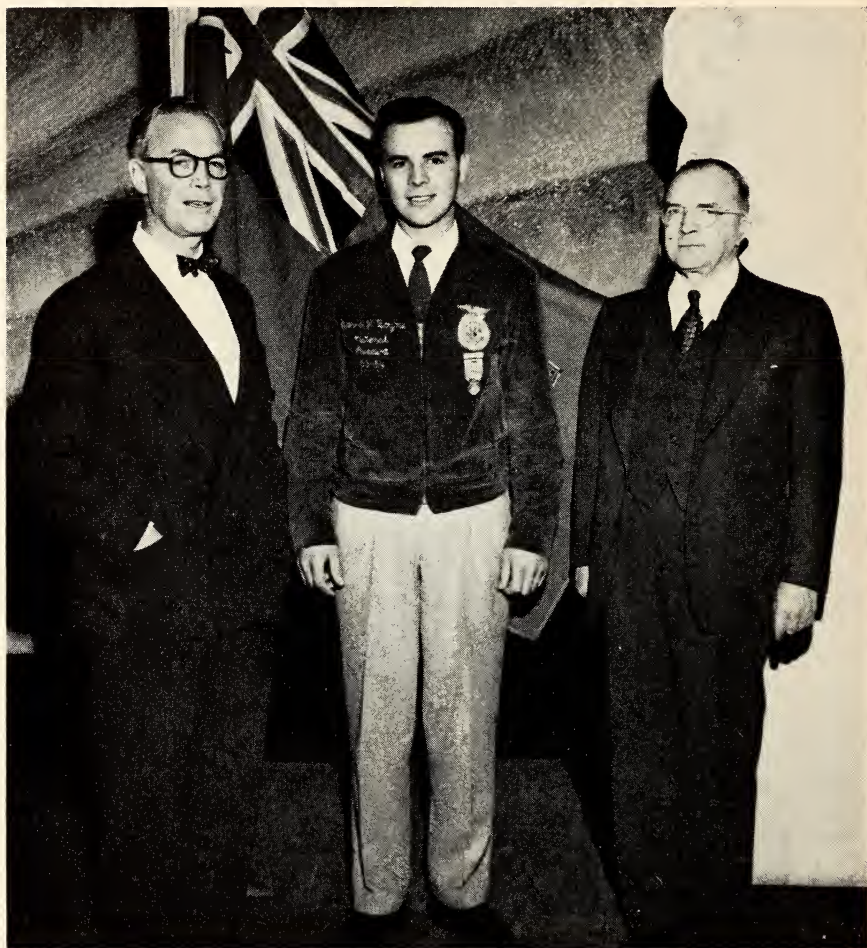
"It's my philosophy that you want to live full. I think that is the philosophy of the Future Farmers. You want a balanced life. You want to work hard with enthusiasm, and play the same way. Don't get one too much in the way of the other, especially the last one. You young gentlemen have not only your future but the future of our country, and of the world perhaps, in your care. Your date with destiny is a great one."

### A. D. P. HEENEY

#### Canadian Ambassador to the United States

"Since coming to this country, just over a year ago, to represent Canada, I have had a great many invitations to make speeches. That's no tribute to my oratory. All Ambassadors do. But, Mr. Chairman, I can say quite honestly that I have had no invitation that has pleased me more than this to address the Future Farmers of America. I am happy to be here for several reasons. First, of course, because it's a great honor to join the company of distinguished speakers who have been guests at your annual conventions. Second, the fact that this year you have invited the Canadian Ambassador must mean that this large and progressive organization of young Americans takes some interest in Canada. But most of all I am happy to be before you because I can imagine no audience to whom I would sooner speak than this assembly of vigorous young Americans who are attached to the good earth of this great nation. In a very special way, you are America. For you are a lively cross section of the most enduring element in this country. And so, I must put my best foot forward, and do my best to leave with you an impression of Canada and Canadians which will be fair as well as favorable. Especially I am anxious to have you understand why we—Americans and Canadians—are and must remain not only neighbors—Providence has seen to that—but frank and faithful partners and friends.

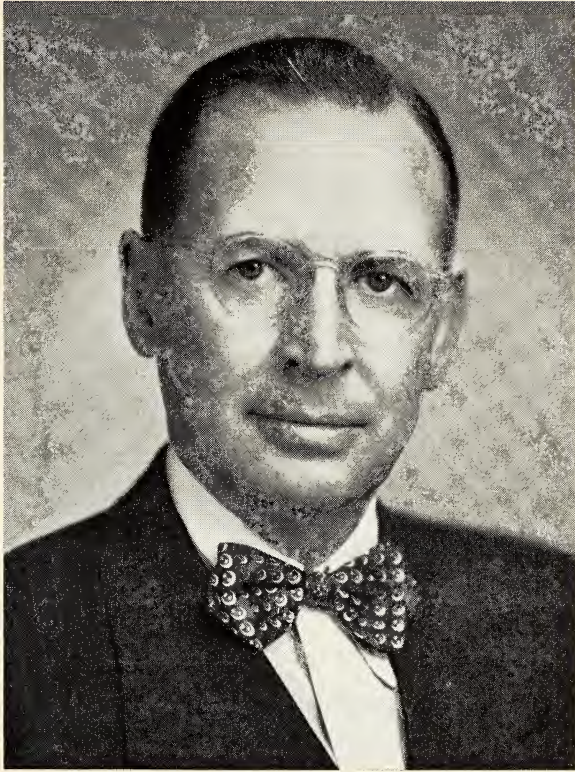
"All of us have, I believe, begun to realize the awful interdependence of all free nations, indeed of all humanity. Those who



David Boyne, National FFA President, with His Excellency A. D. P. Heeney, Canadian Ambassador to the United States (left); and His Excellency Douglas S. Cole, Canadian Ambassador to Mexico.

have had the good fortune to have been brought up in farming communities have known from their earliest years that, in their own interest if for no other reason, they must be willing to lend a helping hand to their neighbor when he is in need. We in Canada and the United States have learned this lesson in living beside one another. Now, I believe, by painful and tragic experience, we are rapidly coming to realize that the same principle of the good neighbor applies to the whole community of mankind. The history of all free countries has been a progress from isolation to community."





Honorable S. M. Brownell

**S. M. BROWNELL**

Commissioner, U. S. Office of Education

"I take a great deal of inspiration in meeting with you this morning for two reasons. One is that when I see how carefully you think through and operate your own program, I recognize that as you get home that same kind of thought about your problems augurs well for the education and other conditions in your area.

"The second thing that gives me special inspiration is to think that you coming here from forty-eight different States, and we have forty-eight State school systems in this country, are able on your own volition through cooperation and no coercion to come and work together in your own organization, to come and combine your efforts in harmony such as we had in your Chorus and in your Band, so that I recognize that wherever you go that same kind of commonness of spirit means that we can look forward to improvement in all of our conditions, not only in agriculture but all of the things that



make agriculture important, and that is the people in this country, their education, their spiritual life, as well as their material life.

“May I say to you as an organization that the Office of Education is proud to have a connection with you. I am sure you have heard many times what I have heard during the past year since I have been Commissioner, that the people of Kansas City consider this convention one of the finest conventions that comes to this city, and they look forward to it. I can understand why, now that I have had a chance to be a part of it.

“The best of success to each and every one of you. Greetings from the Office of Education!”

# National Student Officer Reports

## Report of the National President

At our Silver Anniversary Convention here in Kansas City and in this very Auditorium, I listened with extreme interest to the reports of each of the national officers. At that time, I was waiting along with several other fellows for the report of the

Nominating Committee; hoping for the best, but yet not daring to even wish for too much. One full unbelievable year has passed since that time and now I come before you to render a report of activities and accomplishments.

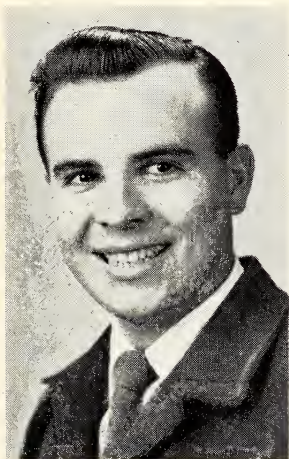
I have been proud to serve in the capacity of a national officer for many reasons. Proudest of all, though, because wherever I have gone this year I have found the Future Farmers of America organization and the individuals that make up this organization held in the highest respect.

A Future Farmer is known as an honest, intelligent, hard working individual. He is progressive in his thinking and in his work. He looks to the future with confidence and high hope. This with the instruction and training he is now receiving

in agriculture and leadership will enable him to be a strong asset to his community, State, and nation, making secure the future he now dreams of.

After receiving the gavel from Jimmy Dillon, I witnessed the final session of our 26th convention, being privileged to hear the address by President Eisenhower. On October 16, I enjoyed a series of radio and television appearances and the pleasure of riding with Senator Harry Darby in the American Royal Parade.

During the remaining weeks of 1953, I was kept very busy giving talks and slide lectures on my experiences and the impressions I had received while in Great Britain during the previous spring and summer on the FFA Exchange Program. After several local and State appearances as a national officer, I travelled to Chicago on November 22, to attend the National Convention of the American Vocational Association. There I addressed the Agricultural Education division of the AVA, and enjoyed the opportunity of meeting a very high percentage of the supervisors and teacher trainers from throughout the United States as well as many of the chapter advisors from the different States.



DAVID BOYNE  
*President*

I returned home to have Thanksgiving with my family and the following day retraced my steps back to Chicago to be present at the 32nd National 4-H Club Congress, November 28-December 1. I was very warmly received and particularly appreciate the opportunity to become acquainted with the leaders and representatives of this fine fellow farm youth organization.

The morning of December 11, found me addressing the Michigan Department of Education in Lansing. After another presentation before the Lansing Exchange Club at noon that day, I again travelled to Chicago to attend the American Farm Bureau Federation Convention and particularly the youth sessions of this tremendous meeting.

I began the new year by speaking at several chapter banquets in Michigan before travelling to Akron, Ohio, on January 24, where I met with my fellow national officers. The following day we visited with officials of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, and toured the plant of the Goodrich Tire and Rubber Company. On the evening of January 25, we travelled to Washington, D. C. with Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Firestone. In Washington on January 26, your national officers attended the premier showing of the 25th Anniversary film made here at Kansas City last year by the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company. This film has proven to be a magnificent contribution to our organization, helping to tell FFA members everywhere the story of the national convention and impart to them some of the inspiration the convention has to offer.

During the next week in Washington we attended a meeting of representatives of donors to the national foundation, held the January National Board of Student Officers meeting in conjunction with the National Board of Directors meeting and attended several other fine occasions. Among these were a luncheon by Mr. Chester Lang, retiring Chairman of the Sponsoring Committee of the FFA Foundation; a meeting with the American Foundation for Agriculture; a visit with the American Institute of Cooperation, Ken Stern presiding; an enjoyable evening of discussion with Mr. Wheeler McMillen, Editor of Farm Journal, and his associates with a fine luncheon in the Senate Dining Room with the Senators from each of our respective States. Senators Ferguson and Potter of Michigan were our gracious hosts on this occasion. We were also exceedingly pleased to meet Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby, Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, while in Washington.

February 3, found your national officers in Baltimore, Maryland, where we visited the French-Bray Printing Company and the Mathieson Chemical Corporation. Late that same day we travelled to Wilmington, Delaware for a meeting with executives of E. I. duPont deNemours and Company and the following morning visited some of their research laboratories. On February 4, we visited with the U. S. Rubber Company in Newark, New Jersey and that evening had dinner with Dr. George Taylor and associates of U. S. Rubber.

While in New York we enjoyed several excellent meetings which were particularly interesting and educational. They were begun with a visit to the headquarters of the Boy Scouts of America on February 5, followed by a visit with the Esso Standard Oil Company and that afternoon a very enjoyable visit took place with men of Allied Chemical and Dye Corporation. February 6, found us exchanging ideas with people of the Dairymen's League Cooperative, and later touring the United Nation's Building. The American Cyanamid Company was our host at a visit on the morning of February 8th. At noon we visited with Mr. Victor Emanuel and associates of the AVCO Manufacturing Corporation. We officers were exceedingly pleased at this time to meet Brig. General Charles Lindberg.

The first part of our Good-Will Tour was concluded on a high note when we attended the Voice of Firestone television program during which I had the additional very pleasant experience of appearing with Mr. Raymond Firestone.

On February 9, the national officers, accompanied by Mr. Robert V. Mullen, of Sears, Roebuck Foundation; Mr. John Farrar, Dr. A. W. Tenney, and Mr. R. E. Naugher embarked on the second part of our Good-Will Tour. It was through the courtesy of the Sears, Roebuck Foundation that we were able to take a private plane and fly south and westward extending the annual Good-Will Tour into these areas for the first time.

Our first stop was in Louisville, Kentucky, where we visited the Reynolds Aluminum Company, the Standard Oil Company of Kentucky and the Minneapolis-Moline Company. The evening of February 10, was well spent viewing the night scenery while flying to Atlanta, Georgia. In Atlanta on February 11, we had breakfast with the American Turpentine Farmers Association; experienced a visit with the Coca-Cola Company and enjoyed a luncheon with Atlanta Civic and Business officials given by the Atlanta Clearing House Banks. That afternoon we visited the Fulton Bay and Cotton Mills, the Cotton Producers Association and that evening were guests of the Georgia Association at a dinner with Georgia FFA and FHA State officers.

Early the next morning following this interesting occasion, we flew to Birmingham, Alabama. There we visited Tennessee Coal and Iron, Division of U. S. Steel Corporation, had lunch with Birmingham businessmen and were guests of "Progressive Farmer" Magazine.

Arriving in Houston, Texas, on February 13, we received a rousing welcome and a police escort to our hotel in downtown Houston. Many of us will remember this day as it was our first opportunity to witness a real western Rodeo and Fat Stock Show. That evening we were guests of the Mathieson Chemical Corporation.

The next two days in Houston were most enjoyably spent touring the battleship Texas and San Jacinto Monument, visiting



with Anderson and Clayton Cotton Brokers, with Humble Oil and Refining Company, having lunch with the Houston Farm and Ranch Club and breakfast as a courtesy of the Texas Association. Upon leaving Texas we said goodbye to Mr. Naugher who stayed in the south to continue his work.

February 16, found us high in the western skies winging our way toward California. We were able to stop briefly in Phoenix, Arizona, to say hello to a fine delegation of Arizona FFA members and to take aboard Mr. Johnson before resuming our flight westward. Upon arrival in Los Angeles we were met by representatives of the Carnation Company, the Union Oil Company, Sears, Roebuck Foundation and Sunkist Growers. During our stop in Los Angeles we enjoyed excellent visits and interesting meetings with each one of these companies or organizations.

Traveling northward to San Francisco and arriving on February 18, we attended a luncheon sponsored by the City and County of San Francisco and were impressed by our visit to the California Packing Corporation.

Upon leaving San Francisco the nose of our plane was pointed eastward. We landed in Salt Lake City on February 19, and had lunch with business and civic officials of that fine city. Later that afternoon we arrived in Denver, Colorado where we were guests of the National Farmers Union at an enjoyable meeting.

Our tour was successfully concluded on February 21, with a visit to experimental stations of the Great Western Sugar Company and a luncheon with civic and business officials of Denver. This has been only a brief outline of our Good-Will Tour itinerary. Another very interesting feature of this tour was the opportunity to meet with FFA officers in each of the States we visited. There is much more that I would like to tell you about this experience, but time will not permit, except to say, that it was most satisfying to feel you were part of a group taking to others a beginning foundation of knowledge about the Future Farmers organization; what we are and what we are doing and in turn to broaden tremendously one's own perspective of business, industry, other organizations and the fine men leading them.

On my way home from the dispersing point of the Good-Will Tour I stopped in Chicago at Swift and Company and appeared on the Don McNeil Breakfast Club program at the beginning of FFA Week.

Upon my return to Michigan I appeared at several chapter banquets and civic functions before travelling to Chicago for the first youth meetings of the Izaak Walton League of America, March 10-12. March 24, 25, and 26 I attended my first State convention. This was in my home State, Michigan, where I viewed an outstanding pageant commemorating the completion of 25 years of FFA work in Michigan. Dick Arnold and his fellow officers deserve much credit for a well conducted and inspiring convention. My second convention was at Purdue University, April 1-4. On the way to this

convention I was pleased to be able to speak at the Convoy, Ohio, Chapter's Parent-and-Son Banquet. In Indiana, I saw a fine convention conducted by hard-working officers who were led by President Ray Brewer. My next convention was at Columbia, Missouri, April 22-25, where Alan King and fellow officers handled a large, well-organized convention.

During the two weeks that followed the Missouri Convention, I attended a series of 13-Parent-and-Son Banquets in Michigan. May 10 found me back in Chicago to attend the Chicago Y Citizenship luncheon, a very outstanding occasion which brings together 200 of Chicago's leading businessmen and 200 of the top Chicago Y young people.

On the afternoon of the 10th I hurried to St. Paul, Minnesota for the opening banquet session of the Minnesota State Convention. There I renewed acquaintances with Bill Sorem, last year's Central Regional Vice President, and watched Duane Baringer preside over a real good convention. It was here that I attended my largest FFA Banquet. At the close of the convention I travelled to Alexandria, Minnesota, to speak at their chapter's Father-and-Son Banquet.

Soon after my return home I departed for Puerto Rico and the convention of the Futuros Agricultores De America De Puerto Rico, (Future Farmers of America of Puerto Rico) held in Mayaguez. I was tremendously impressed by the Puerto Rico Association and particularly by the fine public speaking contest held during the convention. I shall always remember this fine visit and the gracious hospitality extended me May 19-26.

After only four short days at home, I departed on June 1, to attend a series of conventions that would last throughout the month of June. In Ohio, June 2-4, I renewed acquaintances with Dale Ring, State President; enjoyed the manner in which he and his fellow officers conducted their convention and witnessed a very good awards' program. At the Pennsylvania Convention, June 8-10, I was impressed by an exceptionally fine band led by Dr. Brunner and by their chorus. Robert Worley did a commendable job as presiding officer.

For my next convention I was pleased to travel south to the State of Virginia, down its Shenandoah Valley to Blacksburg, the site of the convention. The preciseness of Lennie Gamage and his officers was an impressive factor of the Virginia convention, June 14-17. Next was the Maryland State Convention where the officers led by Ed Brown held an extremely busy meeting. My final convention was in New Jersey, June 23-25, at Camp Pahaquarra. Good work by State officers and extensive public speaking contests were notable factors of this convention's success. As I left New Jersey I could not help but reminisce; thinking of the many acquaintances I had made and excellent occasions enjoyed while visiting the different State conventions.

It was good to be home during the first part of July and help with the cutting of hay which was at its peak. On July 19th, I

reacquainted myself with the campus of my alma mater, Michigan State College, and spoke to a Conference of Rural Ministers.

During the last week of July, I travelled to Washington, D. C. to again meet with my fellow officers. In Washington we were exceedingly busy with business of our organization, selecting of American Farmers and planning the coming convention. During this week we also enjoyed meetings with the National Grange, National Council of Farmer Cooperatives and with the American Farm Bureau Federation.

August, too, was a busy but memorable month. I appeared at several events in Michigan and attended the American Institute of Cooperation meeting at Cornell University, August 15-19. I was privileged to serve as co-chairman of the youth sessions of this meeting.

On September 8, I appeared at the Michigan State Fair on Governors' Day to receive a special award and on September 15, I departed from Michigan for the Eastern States Exposition. Enroute to the Exposition, I enjoyed stopping one night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walker James in Vermont. While at the Exposition I enjoyed presenting the Star Farmer of the North Atlantic Region, the ten other 1954 Star State Farmers for that region and over 600 FFA members to the audience in the coliseum on the exposition grounds.

Upon returning to Michigan, I enrolled for Fall term courses at Michigan State College and after one week of classes, travelled to Waterloo, Iowa, for the National Dairy Cattle Congress, October 4-5. There I was pleased to present the Star Regional Dairy Farmers and the Star American Dairy Farmer. It was also a pleasure to act as MC of the FFA Awards banquet.

A summary of my activities is as follows:

Days spent in the Interest of FFA.....	194
Speeches made .....	169
In addition slide lectures and talks on	
Exchange Program with Great Britain	84
State Conventions attended.....	10
Radio and Television Broadcasts.....	55
Total expenses to FFA (approx.).....	\$1,700.00

For the wonderful experiences that have been mine during the past year I am truly thankful. I would like to express thanks and appreciation to just a few of many deserving people; people who have influenced and guided me; aided and assisted in my behalf.

First of all to the 370,000 Future Farmers who make up our organization and have made these experiences of this past year possible—a sincere thank you.

To my fellow officers, Walker, Charlie, Harlan, Hunt and John. This year of fruitful work and cooperation together marks only the beginning, for we have laid the foundation stones of life-long friendship.



To Dr. Spanton, Dr. Tenney, Mr. Hansucker, Mr. Naugher, Mr. Johnson, and Mr. Farrar, I wish to say thank you for sound advice, good background, knowledge and fine guidance. You have imparted to me a quality of understanding and assurance not easily definable.

To Mr. Nesman, my State Advisor, and Mr. Lightfoot, my State Executive Secretary, I wish to express thankfulness for guidance always, thoughtfulness, encouragement and faith.

To my local advisor, Mr. Richard Austin, and to my instructors in Marlette High School, I want you to know I am sincerely appreciative of your many helps along the path that has led onward.

To my parents who are with me today; you know what I mean when I simply say, mom and dad thanks for help never ceasing or faltering through thick and thin, ups and downs. Without you, my grandparents, my sister Carolyn, and my brother Jim, who has given willingly of much effort on my behalf, I would be unable to be here today.

In closing I would like to express my confidence in the future of FFA and also remind you of a basic challenge that faces each one of us. These two objectives are accomplished, I believe, in the following poem by Edgar A. Guest.

“Do the first task well, and later  
You’ll be trusted with one greater.  
If you fail at the beginning  
Lessened is your chance of winning.  
This is how men have succeeded:  
Serving well where they were needed  
Shirk today, and to your sorrow  
You’ll be overlooked tomorrow.  
Boy, from this there’s no escaping:  
Now your future you are shaping.”

Respectfully submitted,

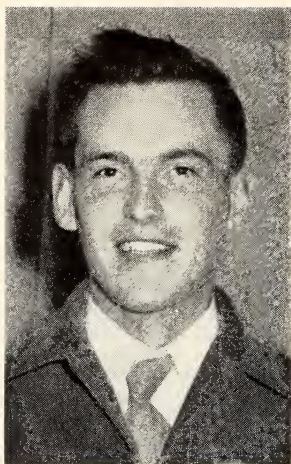
DAVID H. BOYNE

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## **Report of the North Atlantic Regional Vice President**

October 13, 1953, started a year of excitement, travel, education and hard work. At the time I received the Green Hand Degree, the American Farmer Degree and a national office seemed far out of my reach. After the national convention last year, I returned home





WALKER JAMES  
North Atlantic  
Vice President

to our farm little realizing what was in store for me and my family.

January 24, the magic carpet was rolled out and I was on my way to national officer meetings, and later the Good-Will Tour that covered much of the United States. A month later found me back home with my family and my farm.

My duties to local chapters began with speeches given to local groups and civic organizations.

March 19, found my wife and I going to Massachusetts and my first State convention. It was a small convention but well conducted. This association held a very fine public speaking contest.

Next I started for two more conventions, Delaware and Rhode Island. Both conventions were small and short but they showed a very good spirit for the FFA and

conducted good meetings.

April 19, found me on my way to the North Atlantic Agricultural Education Conference in New York City, where I appeared on the program.

New York's convention started on the 29th of April, and the first day of May I was guest at their excellent banquet. This State's chorus and band deserve a very high compliment. It was my largest convention.

The New Hampshire convention was next, on the 15th of May. I had the privilege of presiding over the public speaking contest.

Before going to more conventions, I made several speeches before civic and community groups.

June 24, I had the pleasure of being on a panel featuring Young Farmer groups. This was at a joint conference of New Hampshire and Vermont Agriculture teachers.

The day of July 19th, found me in Connecticut. It was an inspiration to see the enthusiasm shown by the leaders and the members of this small State Association.

Ruth and I drove to Washington, D. C. where I attended the mid-summer meeting of the National Board of Directors and National Board of Student Officers.

There was just one convention left, my own in the State of Vermont. My wife and son accompanied me to this convention. It was a very well conducted convention.

I took part in the Eastern States Exposition. Here I witnessed a great spectacle, 600 FFA boys on Governors' Night marching in review before the distinguished gentlemen.

Next I came out west to Kansas City for the wind up of my FFA career, at this convention.

I owe thanks to Dr. Spanton, Dr. Tenney, and other national office personnel; especially to Mr. Hansucker, who has helped guide me this year; to Mr. Cola Watson, my State Advisor, who helped make this dream come true; to Mr. Bruce Gaylord, my agriculture teacher out of school; to Mr. Richmond Young, my agriculture teacher in school, who started me in FFA; and to Charlie, Harlan, John, Hunt and Dave.

To my wife's parents, who helped us when I was gone; to the boys who did my work and enabled me to leave when necessary; to my parents for their never ending encouragement; to Ruth and Sammy, my wife and son, whose love and help have made this year possible, go my thanks.

The following is a summary of my activities:

Speeches made .....	48
Days spent in interest of FFA.....	80
Conventions attended .....	7
Radio and television broadcasts.....	17
Total expenses to FFA (approx.).....	\$1,000.00

It is my hope that the FFA will continue to grow and serve farm boys. Good luck and God bless you.

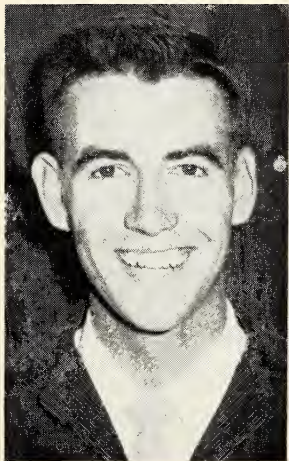
Respectfully submitted,

WALKER E. JAMES

## Report of the Southern Regional Vice President

Fellow Future Farmers, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The expression of a year's activities, associations, and experiences that I have enjoyed as a national officer cannot adequately be phrased by mere words. It has been a heartfelt experience and I am humbly grateful to those who gave me the opportunity to serve as vice president of the Future Farmers of America.



CHARLES W. RITTER, JR.  
*Southern Vice President*

I left the Silver Anniversary Convention last year filled with exuberance, yet aware of the great responsibility and challenge before me.

After arriving home my first official duty was a speaking engagement before a district meeting of the Future Homemakers of America in my own native State. This was followed by a tour of many local chapters and speeches before various civic organizations and other groups. This pattern was continued until the latter part of January when I left for Washington, D. C., and the first of a series of three Board of Directors and Student Officers Meetings.

After the conclusion of this first meeting, the National Good-Will Tour was begun. After three weeks of very intensive

travel, I returned home at the beginning of National FFA Week and found myself with more commitments than I could possibly fill. This was the week that I had the pleasure of helping Mr. S. J. Gibbs and his Future Farmers of Sulligent, Alabama, celebrate their Silver Anniversary Father-and-Son Banquet.

After another series of local speaking engagements, I headed for the wide-open spaces of the great Southwest. It was my pleasure to be the guest of the Livingston, Texas, FFA Chapter for one week. During this week I participated in various events ranging from spraying fat Brahma cattle to judging beauty contests. Needless to say, I certainly enjoyed and am indebted to Livingston Future Farmers for a very memorable time.

After returning home once again, and attending a very fine banquet at Merigold, Mississippi, where former national FFA Vice President Merrill Cartwright was advisor, I left for New Orleans and the Southern Regional Vocational Agriculture Conference. This was a very inspirational meeting. I learned about many of the problems now facing agriculture and the farmer.

I returned home and spent the next few days working on the farm. After several days of hard work at home it was once again FFA Convention time in Dixieland. I left home and travelled west of the mighty Mississippi to the grand State of Arkansas. There I witnessed a very fine convention by President Morris Morgan and his lieutenants. I was also privileged to be a guest in the home of former State President Billy Jennings. Leaving Arkansas before the close of the convention, I travelled south to Ruston, Louisiana, where I enjoyed a fine convention and festive occasion. President Billy Pesnell and his fellow officers are to be complimented for a very successful meeting.

Leaving Louisiana, and stopping at home only long enough to pack some clean clothes I travelled to Auburn, Alabama, for a fine meeting with President Ralph Barrett and his fellow Future Farmers. This convention was followed by a tour of some of Alabama's leading industries with the Sulligent and Vernons FFA Chapters as hosts.

Following a very close schedule I returned home for my own State convention. Bobby Kirk and his fellow officers are to be complimented on the many fine features provided at this convention. Leaving the Mississippi convention, after only two days, I journeyed southward to Daytona Beach, Florida, for a very well planned and enjoyable week of FFA activities. President Eugene Nixon and the other Florida State officers certainly merit recognition for a fine convention.

After a short tour of Florida and visits with some Future Farmers there, it was time for the FFA convention in the Peach State of Georgia. President Terrell Benton and his fellow officers conducted a fine and well-attended meeting at their elaborate FFA camp near Atlanta.



Before the close of the Georgia meeting the eager Future Farmers of the South Carolina Association opened with a very fine convention in nearby Clemson, South Carolina. Arriving in the midst of activities, I witnessed a very smooth and efficient conclave in progress.

After the close of the South Carolina convention, I spent a very enjoyable week end in the home of Jimmy Willis, former National Student Secretary. Following this I again travelled to Washington, D. C. for the second Board of Directors and Student Officers meetings. After the climax of this meeting Harlan, John and I headed north for a visit with Walker James, his wife Ruth, and their young son Sammy. After this visit a short trip was made into Canada for a look at some of the Canadian farming methods and practices.

Returning to Mississippi once again I spent a few days on the farm and then headed back east. This time, to Raleigh, North Carolina, for a very fine convention conducted by Bobby Futrelle and his fellow Future Farmers. This meeting was followed by an enjoyable week end in the cool and scenic Blue Ridge Mountains.

After the North Carolina Convention I returned home in time to register for classes at Mississippi State College. Hardly had I attended the first class until it was time to come to Kansas City for our last Board of Directors and Student Officers meetings and the convention.

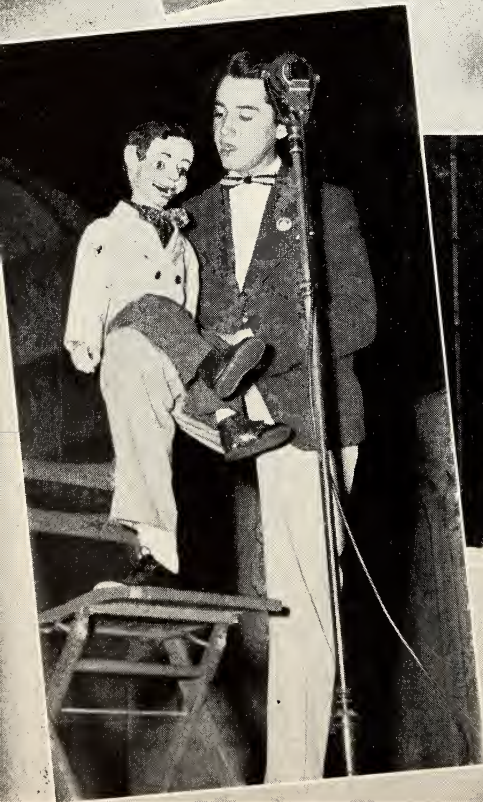
A summary of my activities follows:

Days spent in the interest of FFA.....	135
Speeches made .....	148
Television and Radio Programs.....	19
Expense to FFA (approx.) .....	\$1,150.00

Today ends a grand and glorious era for me. The seven years I have spent as an FFA member have been profitable and most enjoyable. Behind every move I have made and back of any significant achievement have been several people to whom I am deeply indebted—to my parents for their devotion, sacrifices, and sound parental advice; to Mr. I. Q. Weaver, my Agriculture teacher, for his diligent training and patience in the classroom; to Mr. A. P. Fatherree, my State Advisor; to Mr. A. E. Strain, my State Executive Secretary, for the leadership training and advice they gave me; to the Future Farmers in my own State of Mississippi for their loyalty and support; to the entire staff of the Agricultural Education Branch of the Office of Education, for their tireless efforts and unlimited support; and finally to every Future Farmer whom I have met or visited during the last twelve months for the graciousness with which you received me and the hospitality that you extended to me. I realize that you were expressing feelings toward the organization that I represented rather than to me as an individual.

While serving as a national officer, I have had the pleasure of associating with five of the finest gentlemen I have ever met. I shall always cherish their friendship and forever hold sacred the experi-





Upper Left—Donald Smith, Florida, Top Center—Ronny Fink, Illinois,  
Upper Right—Scene from dramatization of FFA Creed, Left Center—  
Rodney Brannon, Creed Dramatization, Right Center—Scene from drama-





tization of FFA Creed, Bottom pictures from left to right—Bill Crumbaker, Michigan; Philip Pagay, Hawaii; Carawa Arkansas String Band and Johnnie Mauldin, Texas.



ences we have enjoyed together. To Dave, Walker, John, Hunt and Harlan, may the best in life always be yours.

As today draws to a close I am looking forward to tomorrow when as a teacher of vocational agriculture I can continue to associate myself closely with Future Farmers and their work.

The Future Farmers of America organization, although twenty-six years of age, has but scratched the surface of opportunities and services that it can provide to its members. It will be up to you and future leaders of our organization to search out these opportunities and provide these services, to make changes in the organization whenever they appear meritorious, and to forever uphold the principles set forth in our Constitution, Creed and Motto.

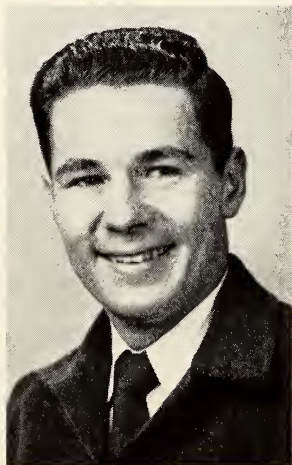
May God bless you—and Future Farmers everywhere!

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES W. RITTER, JR.

### **Report of the Pacific Regional Vice President**

Six years ago this fall, I enrolled in vocational agriculture at Colton High School, with my heart set on learning as much as possible in this course. Having been associated with agriculture my entire life, I naturally found this course of study very interesting.



JOHN SCHULTHEIS  
*Pacific Vice President*

Along with my study of agriculture, I became a member of the FFA, little realizing that at one time in the not too distant future I would hold a national office in this organization.

In 1951, I attended my first national convention, and at this convention, while watching the national officers perform, I set my goal to become a national officer in our organization.

Last fall at the Silver Anniversary Convention, my dream came true, when you elected me to serve as a vice president of the national organization. My sincere hope is that I have justified your trust.

This past year has shown me what a truly great organization the Future Farmers of America really is. The education and inspiration that I have received from you Future Farmers can never be duplicated.

Following my election, I spoke to many FFA chapters and civic organizations. On January 23, I finished the first semester at Washington State College, where I was studying Animal Husbandry. On this day I left from Spokane by plane to join the other officers in Akron, Ohio, from where we went to Washington, D. C.

to attend the Board of Directors and Board of Student Officers meeting. February 3 to 20 we were on our Good-Will Tour, of which David has told you.

The weeks following the Good-Will Tour were very busy ones, during which I attended chapter banquets and other meetings.

On March 16, I started a most enjoyable duty of a national officer. March 16-19, I attended the Oregon State Convention at Oregon State College in Corvallis. Duane Rencken and his slate of officers did an excellent job of conducting the anniversary convention. While here I also renewed acquaintances with a past national officer, Duane Drushella.

On March 25, I flew to Sheridan, Wyoming, to attend the Wyoming State Convention. The sessions conducted by Bill Shepard and the other State officers were most impressive.

Following this convention, which terminated March 27, I returned home, only to leave for the Idaho State Convention at Idaho Falls, March 31-April 2. It was a well-conducted and well-planned convention, under the guidance of Dwight Spaulding, State President. I regret that I was unable to attend the entire convention, but conflicting dates made it necessary to leave early to take part in the final day of my home State convention, which was held at Washington State College, Pullman. This was a very outstanding convention, and the work of Larry Richner, State President, and his fellow officers will long be remembered.

April 6-9, was spent in Bozeman, Montana, where a very inspirational convention was held. Charles Schwend, with the very capable help of the other officers, conducted a very fine convention. I enjoyed meeting Bill Michaels, former National Vice President while in Montana.

Following this convention, I returned home to help with the farming, from which I had been absent for so long.

April 24-May 2, I had the privilege of taking part in the Pacific Regional Conference and Public Speaking Contest in Salem, Oregon. This was a wonderful experience, and I had the opportunity of witnessing the very fine performances of the contestants.

From May 8-13, I attended a superb convention in California at California Polytechnic College, San Luis Obispo, under the direction of State President Jim Campbell. This was the largest State convention I attended, and the boys showed what a truly great State association they have in California. While here, I also renewed acquaintances with Robert L. Smith, past national officer.

Upon the completion of the California State Convention, I returned home, and again turned by hand to farming, which kept me occupied until July 21, when I left from Spokane for the West Virginia State Convention and Leadership Conference, which was held at Jackson's Mill, July 23-27. Here, again, I witnessed an excellent convention, which was very impressive. Charles Wellings and the other State officers did a commendable job in directing the



convention. I also had the pleasure of meeting Rogers Fike, past national vice president. I was unable to attend the entire convention because of the Board meetings in Washington, D. C. which were held July 26-31. The week spent in Washington was taken up almost entirely with reviewing American Farmer Applications and attending Board of Directors and Board of Student Officers meetings.

When I arrived home, harvesting had already begun, and most of the time remaining until this convention was taken up with harvest, and getting the fields ready for next year's crop.

On October 6, I left home for Kansas City, and this 27th national convention.

Following is a summary of my activities as a national officer:

Days spent in interest of FFA.....	116
Speeches made .....	80
State conventions attended.....	7
Radio and television broadcasts.....	22
Total expenses to the FFA (approx.)....	\$1,300.00

Often as I thought about this time, when my active membership would draw to a close, I realized it would be hard to do—to bring to a close my participation in this the greatest farm boy organization in the world. Although I shall no longer be a member of the FFA, I shall be a booster of the Future Farmers of America until the day I die. The influence of my experience and education this past year shall always be with me.

I should like to express my gratitude and appreciation to Dr. Spanton, Dr. Tenney, and everyone in the national office for what they have done for me this past year. My respect for them, and for the manner in which they have stood as examples for us, and for the type of person the FFA is striving to develop, shall be a lasting memory.

To Mr. Bert L. Brown, my State Advisor, and his State staff, all I can say is thank you. What I have gained from you throughout my years as an FFA member shall always be cherished.

Mr. John Ellerson, my chapter advisor is a person who shall be remembered forever. He is the man who helped me throughout my course of agriculture, and took a vital interest in my activities, prodding me when the going was rough, and giving me constructive advice always.

My parents, of course, have done the most for me. I can never repay them, nor begin to mention what they have done. I shall never forget their sacrifices, encouragement, and understanding. Also my brothers, Gene, Harold, and Howard, who made it possible for me to carry on my activities by caring for my farm work.

And my fellow officers, David, Charlie, Walker, Harlan, and Hunt will always have a soft spot in my heart. The strong bond of cooperation and brotherhood has helped to make this year what it is.

Our organization is a living, growing one, and we shall always be making progress. As we leave this convention we should have renewed confidence in ourselves and in our ability, and look forward to making the Future Farmers of America a still bigger and better organization. I feel that we will do this.

May our Gracious God continue to bless our organization, and each and every Future Farmer in it!

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN SCHULTHEIS

### **Report of the Central Regional Vice President**

Fellow Future Farmers, one short report of a national officer's activities will merely scratch the surface of the many opportunities he has enjoyed in one year's time. The travelling he has done, the contacts he has made, the experiences he has gained can never be described by the most chosen words in our dictionary. I will now attempt to recall a few of the activities in which I have had the pleasure to participate.



HARLAN RIGNEY  
*Central Vice President*

Upon returning home from Kansas City last October most of my time for the remainder of 1953 was spent on the farm, except time out for several banquets throughout Illinois and southern Wisconsin.

On January 24, I travelled to Akron, Ohio, to begin our annual Good-Will Tour with my fellow national officers. Twenty-nine days and 9,000 miles later, six tired boys in Denver, Colorado, disbanded and headed for home, each agreeing he had just spent four of the most interesting and worthwhile weeks of his life.

The last week of February and the month of March found me once more on the banquet circuit. March 9, I was privileged to give a report of our winter meeting to the Central Region Agricultural Education Meeting in Chicago.

On the evening of March 31, I climbed aboard a train for Lincoln, Nebraska to attend my first State convention. Here a group of State officers of unusually good ability, conducted a fine convention plus one of the largest and best planned banquets I've had the pleasure to witness.

Two weeks later I shoved the suitcase into the car once more, this time my destination was Nashville, Tennessee. Arriving one

day before the convention gave me an opportunity to spend a few hours touring that most colorful state before returning to an equally colorful southern convention. The boys in Tennessee planned plenty of entertainment to balance equally well-planned and well-attended business sessions.

After only two days spent on our home farm I was once more on the road. During the third week of April the Iowa Association conducted one of the largest State conventions I had the privilege to attend. I'll long remember the boys of our rival corn-growing State for the way they sold to the general public the ideas and principles of our organization. By means of radio broadcasts, TV, and dozens of newspaper articles plus colorful exhibits and a parade through the city of Davenport, everyone in the State of Iowa was informed of this event.

On Saturday, April 24, I said good-bye to my Iowa friends. Just 24 hours later I was in Brookings, South Dakota, making more friends with the officers and boys of that great State. Although South Dakota conducted one of the smallest conventions in the central region, it was obvious by the enthusiasm displayed by these fellows that South Dakota is turning out some of our better Future Farmers.

At Green Lake, Wisconsin, May 3-4, with excellent facilities, this State association conducted a very impressive State convention. The highlight of this meeting was a well-planned and executed pageant showing the 25 years' growth of the Wisconsin Association. Good amateur entertainment helped to hold a great deal of interest for everyone attending.

For the next three weeks, I enjoyed very much the chance to stay home and work on the farm. To add further enjoyment to my home stay, I found time to address a couple of Future Homemaker banquets near home.

June 9, I headed for Springfield and the Illinois State convention. Illinois did a splendid job of recognizing its State Farmers and other outstanding boys. Their Star State Farmer ceremony was excellent.

Within minutes after this convention closed, our newly elected State President joined me for a trip to the Kentucky State convention at Louisville. Here in an air-conditioned hotel ballroom their facilities for such a summer meeting were excellent. I regretted that I was forced to leave before their program was finished but one day convinced me that the officers of the Kentucky Association were very friendly boys, highly capable of conducting a most colorful convention.

On June 22, I was on a train for Fargo, North Dakota and my last State convention. Although another small convention, the business sessions, entertainment, banquets, and publicity achieved perfect balance to make this a most memorable convention to wind up my State travels.



Our annual mid-summer meeting in Washington, D. C., July 24-30, gave me and my fellow officers a chance to talk over our travels and plan the business of your national association. At the conclusion of this meeting, John Schultheis and Charles Ritter accompanied me on the short trip to Canada, stopping for an overnight visit with Walker James and his wife on their Vermont farm.

It was my privilege to conduct the Central Regional Public Speaking Contest in Olney, Illinois, on September 16. Speaking at a couple of leadership schools and civic club appearances rounded out the summer months.

On October 5, I left for Kansas City to assist in the final arrangements for our 27th national convention.

Following is a summary of my year's activities:

Days spent in the interest of the FFA....	102
State conventions attended.....	8
Speeches made .....	62
Radio and TV broadcasts.....	16
Expenses to the FFA (approx.).....	\$ 800.00

I wish to thank at this time the many deserving people who have helped me so much along the way. Our state staff in Illinois; Dr. Tenney; Dr. Spanton; and my vo-ag teacher, Mr. Vernon Boke-meier, deserve a great deal of credit for the guidance they have given me many times along the way. Thanks to my dad and mother; never once was I forced to miss any FFA activities for the work they so willingly did in my absence. I wish also to thank my fellow officers—Dave, Charlie, Hunt, John and Walker.

Last October as I assumed the duties of a national officer I dreamed of the many wonderful experiences that would be mine. The dreams turned to pleasant realities, the realities now have been replaced by fond memories. Memories of a year that found me travelling to 35 States to discharge my duties of this office.

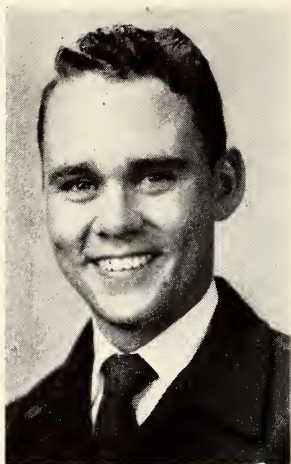
Next month I'll trade the blue corduroy jacket emblematic of this great organization for the khaki of the United States Army. From there it's difficult to predict what the future will hold for me. One thing, however, is certain, no matter where I may go or what I may do I shall always be thankful that I was a Future Farmer.

Respectfully submitted,

HARLAN RIGNEY

### **Report of the National Student Secretary**

As I stand before you now, and during this entire twenty-seventh FFA convention, I am experiencing the most outstanding and wonderful occasion of my life. Realizing that only six young men from our marvelous land and country have the opportunity of



HUNT ZUMWALT  
*Student Secretary*

serving as National FFA Officers and that only one young man from the entire world is privileged to serve as National FFA Student Secretary, makes me feel fearfully humble as I strive to fulfill my duties to the best of my ability.

Future Farmers, to me this year has been more than a dream come true, as some of my predecessors have expressed it, because I did not ever actually dream that a bashful, backward boy from Artesia, New Mexico, would be a National FFA Officer. So it has been with the greatest personal thrill and enjoyment that I have worked hand in hand with each one of you this year as we endeavored to fulfill our part of that inspiring task.

My active duties began about January 24, when I left home to be a part of the wonderful Good-Will Tour, which was previewed by the period of instruction and Board meetings in Washington, D. C.

The first State convention I had the privilege of being a small part of was conducted by the Utah FFA Association in Salt Lake City. I will always appreciate Jerold Johnson along with the co-workers of their fine convention.

My second convention duties took place in the enjoyable little town of Panoca, Nevada. I enjoy publicly commending the Nevada Association on their convention which was conducted so ably by Phillip Reber and his fellow officers.

The next two conventions were scheduled close together, thus making it possible to attend both on the same trip. I can't say that I killed two birds with one stone because these two State Associations are far from being dead. These were the Oklahoma and Kansas Conventions. I felt stimulated and uplifted after participating in these conventions which were conducted so well by Barton Ridling in Oklahoma and Nelson Galle in Kansas.

I found it necessary to continue my college work both semesters last year so when the summer vacation came I found it much easier to devote my time to my FFA activities. A few days after school ended I attended the Colorado FFA Convention in Gunnison, Colorado. This proved to be a very enjoyable and profitable week working with Tom Jagers and his able group of fellow officers.

My next trip was a big one. It consisted of the Texas FFA Convention, the meetings of the National Student Officers and Board of Directors in Washington, D. C., the New Mexico Convention and the Arizona Convention.

The Texas convention was very outstanding and was lead to a great success by Jon Hagler and all of his fellow helpers. I was

anxious to get to the next convention because it was to be the convention of my home State. It certainly seemed good to be back home again and to feel that I was back in the saddle again with Darwin Crockell and my fellow New Mexicans.

I then had to hurry right on to my next and final convention. The president at this convention was Bob Moore and the excellent convention was the Arizona FFA Convention held at Prescott, Arizona.

I would like to say that in the States which I visited I found the FFA members to be very outstanding boys with very outstanding plans and ideals. It thrills me to see the progress FFA has made during its first 25 years of its existence. I believe that the future holds great prospects for tremendous achievement in FFA and thus in the advancement of America.

The following is an approximate summary of my year's work:

Days spent in interest of FFA.....	108
Speeches made .....	71
Radio and TV broadcasts.....	12
Conventions attended .....	8
Expenses to the FFA (approx.).....	\$1,450.00

Fellow FFA members, I think each one of us should be grateful to our vocational agriculture instructors, our parents, and the supporters of FFA, thus making it possible for us to proudly say we are Future Farmers of America. Fellow citizens, I believe the Future Farmers of America organization to be the most outstanding man-made organization, bar none, in the entire world. And therefore, as I think that my career as an active member of an organization which has done so much for me is about gone forever, I find it extremely difficult to express the feelings of my heart.

I have actually learned to love our organization. You say, "Why, Hunt?" Because *you* have given me the privilege to see, know, and understand the FFA from its beginning days until now, with its tremendous backing, power, influence, and importance. Fellows, *it* is proud of you and you should be proud of it.

To Mr. Truman Short, my vocational agriculture instructor; Mr. L. C. Dalton, New Mexico State Supervisor of Vocational Education; and Mr. Jack Parrin, State Executive Secretary, I would like to say that without your tireless efforts, help and encouragement, this day would probably have never been a reality for me.

Dr. Spanton, Dr. Tenney, Mr. Farrar, and each member of the Washington staff, it has been a great opportunity to work with you and call you a personal influential friend. We FFA members are proud that we can have leaders such as you.

Walker, Charlie, Harlan, John and David, I have never known such a wonderful group of friends and young Americans. The unity of our working together has been a thrill and inspiration to me. I believe this closeness will continue throughout life.



Mother and Dad, words cannot express what I would like for you to know. Without your love, patience, tireless work and assistance in every way, you and I would not be able to share this thrilling moment with these thousands of young men. All I can say now is, thank you, from the depths of my heart. This thanks also goes to my brothers Perry and Roby, and my sister, Gayla. Thanks for taking care of my projects, the many hours and days I have been away from home.

Finally, I am grateful to the Father in Heaven, that he has permitted us to have life and happiness. Fellows, I realize that without His help my life could not have been filled with the rich experiences as it has. Instead of saying, May God bless you, as is often said, I would like to say: Always remember Him and He will bless you abundantly.

Fellow Future Farmers, remember that the price of everything else may go up or down, but the price of success remains steady! You know what that is—hard work. If you would see life's best, see that life gets your best.

Respectfully submitted,

HUNT ZUMWALT

# Report of National Executive Secretary

## Report of the National Executive Secretary A. W. Tenney

Last year we celebrated the Silver Anniversary of the Future Farmers of America. Today, we meet again at our annual convention. We may all take pride in the fact that the organization continues to move forward. We are pleased that new records were made in membership and in number of chapters during the past year. According to the reports of State Associations and local chapters, the interest and accomplishments of members are at an all-time high. We must not forget that the progress made during the past year is due to the excellent work done by FFA members, teachers of vocational agriculture, State staffs in agricultural education and the members of the Agricultural Education Branch of the Office of Education. We recognize the helpful assistance that has been given to the FFA by individuals, our many friends in other organizations and from the field of business and industry.

The following report on accomplishments of the Future Farmers of America is for the year ended June 30, 1954.

### Report on Accomplishments

Activity	Goal	Accomplishment
<b>I. SUPERVISED FARMING</b>		
1. Producing food for world demands	100% member participation	81%
2. Increasing size of farming programs	100% member participation	57%
3. Improving livestock and crop production	100% member participation	63% livestock 53% crop
4. Preventing livestock losses	100% chapter participation	72%
<b>II. COOPERATION</b>		
1. Providing experience in cooperative effort	100% member participation	73%
<b>III. COMMUNITY SERVICE</b>		
1. Stress repairing and reconditioning of machinery	100% member and chapter participation	23% members 77% chapters
2. Guarding and protecting life and property	100% of State Associations with safety program	90%
3. Conserving resources	100% of chapters and members participating	49% members 78% chapters
4. Repairing farm buildings and equipment	100% member participation	51%

Activity	Goal	Accomplishment
<b>IV. LEADERSHIP</b>		
1. Advancing members to higher degrees	100% of States naming full quota of qualified American Farmer applicants	88%
2. Providing chapter libraries	100% of chapters with libraries which include 5 or more FFA books	85%
3. Participating in public speaking	100% of Chapters and States hold public speaking contests	100% States 50% chapters
4. Following parliamentary procedure	100% of chapters conducting meetings according to accepted parliamentary procedure	94%
5. Building programs of work	100% of States and chapters with written continuing program of work giving special emphasis to reconversion	100% States 88% chapters
6. Providing State publications	100% of States with an official publication	86%
7. Providing leadership training	100% State participation	96%
8. Maintaining public relations	Keep the public informed on what the FFA is and does	31% chapters issued news sheets or news letters 70% chapters prepared publicity material regularly 58% States sponsored radio series 35% chapters prepared and gave broadcasts
<b>V. EARNINGS AND SAVINGS</b>		
1. Practicing thrift	100% of chapters and members participating	40% members 66% chapters
<b>VI. CONDUCT OF MEETINGS</b>		
1. Using Official Manual	100% of members having access to Official Manual	87%
2. Using Official Secretary and Treasurer Books	100% of chapters using both books	86% secretary's 80% treasurer's
3. Providing official meeting paraphernalia equipment and supplies	100% of chapters and State associations having standard materials with which to work	94% States 84% chapters
4. Using official ceremonies	100% of chapters using opening and closing and degree ceremonies according to the Official Manual	92%
5. Planning State Conventions	100% of State Associations hold conventions	100%
6. Meetings	Every member attend 100% of chapter meetings	93% chapters held regular meetings 51% members attended



Activity	Goal	Accomplishment
<b>VII. SCHOLARSHIP</b>		
1. Improving scholarship	100% of members show outstanding ability as evidenced by scholastic activities, and have a satisfactory record as certified to by the local school superintendent or principal	83% chapters helped members improve their scholarship
<b>VIII. RECREATION</b>		
1. Encourage supervised recreation	100% member participation	69%
2. Continuing National FFA Week	100% of State associations participating	100%
<b>IX. GENERAL</b>		
1. Maintaining membership	375,000 active members	371,592 members

## OFFICER TRAVEL

Your National Student Officers have served you during the year in a very efficient and effective manner. We should remember that these young men serve you without pay. It is true that their travel expenses are paid by the organization. Each year, it seems that the responsibilities assumed by your national officers become greater. You will be thrilled during the convention to hear their reports. I know you will be pleased by their achievements.

## STATE CONVENTIONS

Annual Reports of State Associations indicate that each association held a convention during the past year. We are very glad that the National FFA Officers attended 48 of these conventions. The officers reported that the State Association conventions were giving sound leadership to local chapters and members in the various States. Attendance has been excellent and interest has continued high.

## LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Training in leadership is emphasized annually by local chapters and State Associations. During the past year 48 State Associations held special leadership schools for local chapters and members. A total of 5314 chapters participated in leadership schools. Let us strive to make available sound training and leadership to every member of the FFA.

## CAMP AND OLD MILL

The facilities at the National FFA Camp are being used by the staff of the Future Farmers Supply Service and by the staff of *The National FUTURE FARMER*. Since the Potomac Park Motor Court in Washington, D. C. has facilities to accommodate FFA chapters, the national camp was not open during the past summer.

The George Washington Grist Mill, which is leased from the Virginia Conservation Commission, is still being kept open to the public. A caretaker is kept on duty. The income from the Mill is enough to pay for all of the expenses, maintenance, and the salary of the caretaker.

For many years State Associations have conducted camps for members. During the past year 15 associations operated camps. A few other associations are in the process of developing camps. These camps are used for both instruction and recreation.

## NATIONAL CHAPTER CONTEST

During the past year we received 99 Reports on Accomplishments in the National Chapter Contest. A review of the reports submitted indicates that FFA chapters are continuing to carry out high quality programs. Later during the convention you will witness the presentation of awards to many outstanding chapters. You will want to look at some of the Reports on Accomplishments of Gold Emblem Chapters. These reports are on exhibit in the Little Theater.

Plans are under way to make a number of important changes in the National Chapter Contest. You will review some of these proposed changes during your business sessions.

## PRIZES AND AWARDS

We are pleased it has been possible to continue the award program, which has been financed from funds provided by the Future Farmers of America Foundation. The Foundation is supported annually by grants by many friends of the FFA. We are all looking forward to having as platform guests representatives of donors to the Foundation. These guests will be presented to you during the Wednesday evening session.

## FUTURE FARMERS SUPPLY SERVICE

You will hear later this week a report on the Future Farmers Supply Service. You are doubtless familiar with the booth provided for your convenience here at the convention by the Supply Service. If you have any questions about the Supply Service, or items sold by it I hope you will discuss these with Mr. Harry Andrews, who is at the Supply Service booth. The Supply Service had another very successful year. A few items have been added at your request.

## THE NATIONAL FUTURE FARMER

We are pleased with the progress being made by your magazine, *The National FUTURE FARMER*. The circulation continues to increase. We are looking forward to the time when each member of the FFA will receive the official magazine. You will be given a complete progress report on the magazine by the editor during the convention.

## MOTION PICTURE FILMS

The Future Farmers of America organization has been materially assisted by the production of a number of motion picture films. Last year a film was made of the Silver Anniversary Convention. The letters received in our office indicate that this film is proving very popular and helpful to local chapters. Consideration is being given to the production of a few other films on the Future Farmers of America. The State Associations and local chapters will be advised as soon as these films are available for distribution. We are very grateful for the assistance provided by our friends through these motion picture films.

## SUMMARY

The summary of work done by various State associations for the year ended June 30, 1954, based on information obtained from their annual reports is as follows:

## A. ORGANIZATION

Total number chartered local chapters.....	8,793
Total number white departments of vocational agriculture without FFA chapters.....	102
Total active membership in chartered chapters.....	371,592

## B. MEMBERSHIP DISTRIBUTION AND STATUS

Total number of active members now holding Green Hand Degree .....	162,905
Total number of active members now holding Chapter Farmer Degree .....	198,253
Total number of active members now holding State Farmer Degree .....	9,824
Total number of active members now holding American Farmer Degree.....	610
Total active membership.....	371,592
Total number of associate members (local) .....	449,582
Total number of honorary members (local) .....	40,767
Total number of honorary members (State) .....	5,445
Grand Total membership.....	867,386

## I. SUPERVISED FARMING

Number of members who participated in production of food .....	302,002
Number of members who increased the size of their farming programs .....	210,116
Number of members who used improved livestock practices .....	233,547
Number of members who used improved crop production practices .....	195,212
Number of chapters engaging in organized livestock loss prevention work.....	6,386



## II. COOPERATION

Number of Chapters cooperating with other groups..	8,038
Number of members provided experience in cooperative effort .....	270,506

## III. COMMUNITY SERVICE

Number of members who repaired and/or reconditioned farm machinery.....	84,723
Number of chapters that repaired and/or reconditioned farm machinery.....	6,854
Number of State Associations having a safety program in operation.....	45
Number of members engaged in organized conservation work .....	181,817
Number of chapters engaging in organized conservation work .....	6,828
Number of members who repaired farm buildings and/or equipment .....	190,136

## IV. LEADERSHIP

Number of State Associations that nominated full quota of American Farmers.....	44
Number of chapters having libraries with 5 or more FFA books .....	7,479
Number of State Associations that held a public speaking contest .....	50
Number of chapters holding a public speaking contest .....	4,383
Number of chapters using accepted form of parliamentary procedure in conducting chapter meetings..	8,274
Number of State Associations having a written continuing program of work.....	50
Number of chapters having a definite continuing written program of work.....	7,714
Number of State Associations putting out a State paper, periodical, or news sheet regularly.....	43
Number of chapters issuing news sheets or news letters .....	2,692
Number of chapters preparing publicity material regularly .....	6,119
Number of State Associations providing leadership training schools or conferences for local chapter officers and members.....	48
Number of chapters participating in leadership training schools or conferences.....	5,314
Number of State Associations sponsoring radio broadcast series .....	29
Number of chapters that have prepared and given one or more radio programs.....	3,112
Number of association members attending last National FFA Convention.....	12,751

## V. EARNINGS AND SAVINGS

Number of members carrying out definite thrift practices .....	146,678
Number of Chapters participating in thrift practices .....	5,765

## VI. CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

Number of members who have access to the Official Manual .....	321,616
Number of chapters using official chapter secretary's book .....	7,591
Number of chapters using official chapter treasurer's book .....	7,061
Number of chapters possessing full meeting equipment as listed in the Manual.....	7,401
Number of State Associations possessing full meeting equipment as listed in the Manual.....	47
Number of chapters using the official opening and closing, and degree ceremonies for regular meetings .....	8,108
Number of chapters holding regular meetings.....	8,194
Number of State Associations holding a convention .....	50
Number of members who have attended 100% of chapter meetings .....	188,708

## VII. SCHOLARSHIP

Number of chapters that stimulated members to improve their scholarship.....	7,286
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## VIII. RECREATION

Number of chapters that provided supervised recreation .....	7,443
Number of members who participated in supervised recreation activities .....	257,070
Number of State Associations having a State camp in operation during the year.....	15
Number of members attending State camps.....	15,336
Number of chapters represented.....	1,662
Number of State Associations participating in National FFA Week.....	50

## C. INVESTMENTS IN FARMING

Total amount actually invested in farming by active members as of January 1 of this year.....	\$87,848,382.23
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## D. COLLEGIATE CHAPTERS

Number of recognized teacher training departments operating Collegiate FFA Chapters.....	30
Reported membership in Collegiate Chapters.....	1,618

## WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE

It is becoming a habit for the Future Farmers of America to break records. It is a good habit and I hope it is one we are not going to discontinue. We are proud of our membership as of June 30, 1954. We now have 371,592 members. This is a new record. We predict another new record will be established during the current year. Let us not forget that we should enroll in the FFA all boys who are studying vocational agriculture in high school. We should also encourage many boys to continue their membership in the FFA after they have completed high school.

In closing, I wish to compliment each of you for the good work you have been doing. I also wish to express my appreciation to the national officers for their cooperation and assistance. We have received invaluable assistance from the National Board of Directors, State Advisors and Executive Secretaries, and from our office force.



# Report of the National Treasurer

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July 19, 1954

Officers and Directors,  
Future Farmers of America,  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen :

We have made an examination of the books of account and record of Dowell J. Howard, Treasurer, Future Farmers of America, Richmond, Virginia, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1954, and submit herewith our report, consisting of the statements listed in the foregoing index together with our comments thereon. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the accompanying balance sheet and statement of revenue and expenditures present fairly the financial position of Future Farmers of America at June 30, 1954, and the results of its operations for the fiscal year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Respectfully submitted,

LEACH, CALKINS & SCOTT  
*Certified Public Accountants*

### Financial Position

The assets and liabilities of the organization at June 30, 1954, are shown in detail in the Balance Sheet, Exhibit "A". A summary showing a comparison of the financial position of the organization at June 30, 1954, with that at June 30, 1953, follows.

#### ASSETS:

	June 30, 1954	June 30, 1953	Increase
Cash .....	\$ 24,675.77	\$ 18,763.88	\$ 5,911.89
Investments .....	47,440.00	45,860.00	1,580.00
Loan receivable .....	44,500.00	34,500.00	10,000.00
Trademark .....	500.00	500.00	—
Fixed assets .....	31,980.13	31,603.73	376.40
<b>TOTAL ASSETS.....</b>	<b>\$149,095.90</b>	<b>\$131,227.61</b>	<b>\$ 17,868.29</b>

#### LIABILITIES:

Loan payable (made a grant)....	17,500.00	—	17,500.00
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<b>SURPLUS .....</b>	<b>\$131,595.90</b>	<b>\$131,227.61</b>	<b>\$ 368.29</b>
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### Revenue and Expenditures

Operations of the organization for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1954, resulted in an excess of revenue over expenditures of \$7,491.89. A statement of revenue and expenditures for the year is presented in detail in Exhibit "B", a summary of which follows.

#### REVENUE:

Membership dues .....		\$37,159.20
Royalties .....		14,485.38
Old Mill .....		2,800.00
Future Farmers Supply Service:		
Rent .....	\$ 1,500.00	
Grant .....	7,500.00	
Loan .....	17,500.00	26,500.00
Interest on U. S. Savings Bonds.....		1,580.00
Other .....		125.00

<b>TOTAL REVENUE.....</b>		<b>\$82,649.58</b>
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#### EXPENDITURES:

Travel .....	\$15,197.08
Convention .....	16,662.33
"American Farmer" keys .....	3,650.57
Printing .....	4,346.95
National office expense.....	22,794.05
National Camp and Old Mill.....	2,043.45
Judging expense .....	463.26
"The National Future Farmer".....	10,000.00

<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES .....</b>	<b>75,157.69</b>
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<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES.....</b>	<b>\$ 7,491.89</b>
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## Receipts and Disbursements

There is presented in Exhibit "C" a statement showing in summary form all of the recorded cash receipts and disbursements of the year under review. A list of membership dues collected during the year is presented in Schedule 1.

## Explanatory Comments

CASH IN BANK was verified by direct correspondence with the despositary and reconciliation of the balance reported with the amount shown by the books. All recorded cash receipts were traced to the record of their deposit in bank, and all disbursements through the bank account were evidenced by properly executed, cancelled checks, with the exception of checks outstanding at June 30, 1954. The addition of the cash books was verified by us.

INVESTMENTS, consisting of \$50,000.00 maturity value United States savings bonds, series F, as shown in the balance sheet, were inspected by us. They are carried at cost plus interest earned to the balance sheet date.

LOAN RECEIVABLE was confirmed by direct correspondence with the debtor. This account represents amounts advanced to "The National Future Farmer" as follows:

Cash advances .....	\$36,786.20
Expenses paid .....	7,713.80
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$44,500.00</b>

Of the above cash advances, \$10,000.00 was loaned to the magazine during the year under review out of an authorized maximum of \$28,500.00 which had been budgeted to be advanced as needed by the magazine. It is anticipated that part of the loan will be repaid within the next year.

The organization TRADEMARK is carried on the books at its estimated cost.

FIXED ASSETS are stated at cost, in the case of those at the National Camp, plus the fair market value of gifts received during prior years.

Office furniture and equipment are stated at their estimated value at October 31, 1941, plus subsequent additions at cost.

Because of the fact that none of the fixed assets have ever been depreciated and because there has undoubtedly been a considerable volume of unrecorded additions to office and camp properties by gift and other unrecorded sources, the values of the assets shown on the balance sheet are probably far from their actual worth. For this reason we again suggest that all property assets be appraised in order that they may be adjusted to their current valuation.



### Financial Position

The assets and liabilities of the organization at June 30, 1954, are shown in detail in the Balance Sheet, Exhibit "A". A summary showing a comparison of the financial position of the organization at June 30, 1954, with that at June 30, 1953, follows.

#### ASSETS:

	June 30, 1954	June 30, 1953	Increase
Cash .....	\$ 24,675.77	\$ 18,763.88	\$ 5,911.89
Investments .....	47,440.00	45,860.00	1,580.00
Loan receivable .....	44,500.00	34,500.00	10,000.00
Trademark .....	500.00	500.00	—
Fixed assets .....	31,980.13	31,603.73	376.40
<b>TOTAL ASSETS.....</b>	<b>\$149,095.90</b>	<b>\$131,227.61</b>	<b>\$ 17,868.29</b>

#### LIABILITIES:

Loan payable (made a grant)....	17,500.00	—	17,500.00
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<b>SURPLUS .....</b>	<b>\$131,595.90</b>	<b>\$131,227.61</b>	<b>\$ 368.29</b>
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### Revenue and Expenditures

Operations of the organization for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1954, resulted in an excess of revenue over expenditures of \$7,491.89. A statement of revenue and expenditures for the year is presented in detail in Exhibit "B", a summary of which follows.

#### REVENUE:

Membership dues .....		\$37,159.20
Royalties .....		14,485.38
Old Mill .....		2,800.00
Future Farmers Supply Service:		
Rent .....	\$ 1,500.00	
Grant .....	7,500.00	
Loan .....	17,500.00	26,500.00
Interest on U. S. Savings Bonds.....		1,580.00
Other .....		125.00

<b>TOTAL REVENUE.....</b>		<b>\$82,649.58</b>
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#### EXPENDITURES:

Travel .....	\$15,197.08
Convention .....	16,662.33
"American Farmer" keys .....	3,650.57
Printing .....	4,346.95
National office expense.....	22,794.05
National Camp and Old Mill.....	2,043.45
Judging expense .....	463.26
"The National Future Farmer".....	10,000.00

<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES .....</b>	<b>75,157.69</b>
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<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES.....</b>	<b>\$ 7,491.89</b>
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## Receipts and Disbursements

There is presented in Exhibit "C" a statement showing in summary form all of the recorded cash receipts and disbursements of the year under review. A list of membership dues collected during the year is presented in Schedule 1.

## Explanatory Comments

CASH IN BANK was verified by direct correspondence with the despositary and reconciliation of the balance reported with the amount shown by the books. All recorded cash receipts were traced to the record of their deposit in bank, and all disbursements through the bank account were evidenced by properly executed, cancelled checks, with the exception of checks outstanding at June 30, 1954. The addition of the cash books was verified by us.

INVESTMENTS, consisting of \$50,000.00 maturity value United States savings bonds, series F, as shown in the balance sheet, were inspected by us. They are carried at cost plus interest earned to the balance sheet date.

LOAN RECEIVABLE was confirmed by direct correspondence with the debtor. This account represents amounts advanced to "The National Future Farmer" as follows:

Cash advances .....	\$36,786.20
Expenses paid .....	7,713.80
TOTAL.....	\$44,500.00

Of the above cash advances, \$10,000.00 was loaned to the magazine during the year under review out of an authorized maximum of \$28,500.00 which had been budgeted to be advanced as needed by the magazine. It is anticipated that part of the loan will be repaid within the next year.

The organization TRADEMARK is carried on the books at its estimated cost.

FIXED ASSETS are stated at cost, in the case of those at the National Camp, plus the fair market value of gifts received during prior years.

Office furniture and equipment are stated at their estimated value at October 31, 1941, plus subsequent additions at cost.

Because of the fact that none of the fixed assets have ever been depreciated and because there has undoubtedly been a considerable volume of unrecorded additions to office and camp properties by gift and other unrecorded sources, the values of the assets shown on the balance sheet are probably far from their actual worth. For this reason we again suggest that all property assets be appraised in order that they may be adjusted to their current valuation.

LOAN PAYABLE represents \$17,500.00 loaned to Future Farmers of America by Future Farmers Supply Service. This account was not verified by us beyond tracing the money received to the record of its deposit in bank. The amount borrowed, it should be noted, was less than anticipated in the budget by \$3,325.00.

SURPLUS is analyzed in the balance sheet.

Exhibit "A"

### Balance Sheet

June 30, 1954

#### ASSETS

##### CURRENT ASSETS:

Cash in bank (Exhibit "C").....	\$ 24,675.77	
U. S. Savings Bonds, Series F:		
Dated January 1, 1942.....	\$ 5,000.00	
Dated February 1, 1942.....	5,000.00	
Dated February 1, 1943.....	10,000.00	
Dated September 1, 1943.....	15,000.00	
Dated June 1, 1944.....	5,000.00	
Dated June 1, 1945.....	10,000.00	
Total Maturity Value.....	\$ 50,000.00	
Less: Reserve for unearned interest..	2,560.00	47,440.00
Loan receivable:		
"The National Future Farmer":		
Cash advances .....	\$ 36,786.20	
Expenses paid in prior periods.....	7,713.80	44,500.00
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS.....		\$116,615.77

##### OTHER ASSET:

Trademark .....	500.00
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##### FIXED ASSETS:

###### National Camp:

Land .....	\$12,343.23	
Buildings .....	15,317.16	
Equipment .....	3,288.28	\$ 30,948.67

###### National office:

Furniture and fixtures.....	1,031.46	31,980.13
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\$149,095.90



## LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS

## CURRENT LIABILITY:

Loan payable—Future Farmers Supply Service..... \$ 17,500.00

## SURPLUS:

Balance, July 1, 1953..... \$131,227.61

## Add:

Loan to "The National  
Future Farmer" ..... \$10,000.00  
Office equipment pur-  
chased during fiscal year      376.40  
Excess of revenue over  
expenditures (Exhibit  
"B") ..... 7,491.89      17,868.29

\$149,095.90

Less: Loan received from Future Farm-  
ers Supply Service..... 17,500.00

Balance, June 30, 1954..... 131,595.90

\$149,095.90

## Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1954

REVENUE:	REVENUE		Budget Estimate	Excess Over Estimate
	Detail	Total		
Membership dues (Schedule 1)		\$37,159.20	\$37,000.00	\$ 159.20
Royalties:				
L. G. Balfour Company.....	\$13,574.20			
The Fair Publishing House..	350.06			
The Osborne Company.....	97.58			
St. Louis Button Company....	463.54	14,485.38	28,000.00	(13,514.62)
Other revenue:				
Old Mill .....	\$2,800.00			
Future Farmers Supply Service:				
Rent .....	1,500.00			
Grant .....	7,500.00			
Loan <sup>1</sup> .....	17,500.00			
Interest on U. S. Sav. Bonds	1,580.00			
Miscellaneous .....	125.00	31,005.00	32,125.00	(1,120.00)
TOTAL REVENUE		<u>\$82,649.58</u>	<u>\$97,125.00</u>	<u>\$(14,475.42)</u>

## EXPENDITURES:

	EXPENDED		Appropriations	Unexpended Balance
	Detail	Total		
Travel:				
National officers .....	\$ 7,979.12		\$10,000.00	\$ 2,020.88
Board of directors.....	2,617.67		2,500.00	(117.67)
Special travel—National advisor, secretary and other .....	1,915.55		3,000.00	1,084.45
International .....	2,684.74		2,500.00	(184.74)
Totals—Travel .....		\$15,197.08	\$18,000.00	\$ 2,802.92
Convention:				
Delegate expense .....	\$ 4,378.71		\$ 4,400.00	\$ 21.29
Special features.....	5,361.94		5,000.00	(361.94)
Buttons, badges, programs....	1,696.53		2,000.00	303.47
Stenotypist .....	175.00		200.00	25.00
Photographs and publicity....	452.00		500.00	48.00
Decorations .....	1,497.08		1,000.00	(497.08)
Equipment rental .....	321.51		200.00	(121.51)
Building service .....	55.00		70.00	15.00
Communications .....	95.39		100.00	4.61
Secretarial travel expense....	1,252.83		1,000.00	(252.83)
Awards and certificates.....	1,227.51		1,500.00	272.49
Miscellaneous .....	148.83		250.00	101.17
Totals—Convention .....		16,662.33	\$16,220.00	\$ (442.33)
“American Farmer” keys:				
Total expenditures .....		3,650.57	\$ 3,600.00	\$ (50.57)
Printing:				
Literature and proceedings..\$	3,320.75		\$ 3,000.00	\$ (320.75)
Stationery, forms, etc.....	1,026.20		1,100.00	73.80
Totals—Printing .....		4,346.95	\$ 4,100.00	\$ (246.95)
National office:				
Secretarial salaries:				
Executive sec.’s office.....\$	3,945.49		\$ 3,660.00	\$ (285.49)
National treasurer’s office .....	1,350.00		1,350.00	
Director of Public Relations:				
Salary .....	6,423.21		6,440.00	16.79
Travel .....	1,177.23		1,500.00	322.77
Secretary—salary .....	3,248.88		3,255.00	6.12
Telephone and telegraph.....	415.68		700.00	284.32
Postage, express, etc.....	194.88		200.00	5.12
Bond premiums and taxes....	45.00		100.00	55.00
Supplies, equip., and rents....	595.48		850.00	254.52
Office equipment <sup>2</sup> .....	376.40			(376.40)
Auditing .....	3,687.03		3,650.00	(37.03)
Photographs .....	392.52		500.00	107.48
Miscellaneous .....	942.25		1,200.00	257.75
Totals—National Office ....		22,794.05	\$23,405.00	\$ 610.95
National Camp and Old Mill:				
Mill attendant—salary .....	\$ 1,500.00		\$ 1,500.00	
Insurance .....	364.75		300.00	\$ (64.75)
Maintenance .....	178.70		1,000.00	821.30

	EXPENDED		Appropriations	Unexpended Balance
	Detail	Total		
Totals—National Camp and Old Mill.....		2,043.45	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 756.55
Judging expense .....		463.26	\$ 500.00	\$ 36.74
"The National Future Farmer" magazine <sup>3</sup> .....		10,000.00	\$28,500.00	\$ 18,500.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$75,157.69</b>	<b>\$97,125.00</b>	<b>\$ 21,967.31</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$ 7,491.89</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 7,491.89</b>

(Exh. "A")

<sup>1</sup> Credited to Future Farmers Supply Service (Exhibit "A").<sup>2</sup> Charged to "Office Equipment" (Exhibit "A").<sup>3</sup> Charged to "The National Future Farmer" (Exhibit "A").

### Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1954

Exhibit "C"

BALANCE, JULY 1, 1953..... \$ 18,763.88

#### RECEIPTS:

Membership dues (Schedule 1)..... \$ 37,159.20  
 Royalties (Exhibit "B") ..... 14,485.38  
 National Camp and Old Mill..... 2,800.00  
 Future Farmers Supply Service.

Rent ..... \$ 1,500.00  
 Grant ..... 7,500.00  
 Loan ..... 17,500.00 26,500.00

Income tax withheld from employees.... 2,329.55  
 Employees' old-age benefits..... 296.75  
 Miscellaneous ..... 125.00

#### Expense refunds:

Travel ..... \$ 117.61  
 Convention ..... 1,404.83  
 National office ..... 1,429.36  
 Judging expense ..... 5.81 2,957.61

TOTAL RECEIPTS ..... 86,653.49

\$105,417.37

#### DISBURSEMENTS:

Travel ..... \$ 15,314.69  
 Convention ..... 18,067.16  
 "American Farmer" keys..... 3,650.57  
 Printing ..... 4,346.95  
 National office expense..... 23,926.50



National Camp and Old Mill.....	2,043.45	
Withholding tax remitted to Federal Government .....	2,329.55	
Employee and employer social security tax paid .....	593.66	
Judging .....	469.07	
"The National Future Farmer" loan: Cash .....	10,000.00	
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS.....</b>		<b>80,741.60</b>
<b>BALANCE, JUNE 30, 1954 (Exhibit "A").....</b>		<b>\$ 24,675.77</b>

### Membership Dues Collected

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1954

Schedule 1

Associations	Amount	Associations	Amount
Alabama .....	\$ 1,226.30	New Jersey .....	150.20
Arizona .....	150.80	New Mexico .....	202.00
Arkansas .....	1,298.60	New York .....	650.50
California .....	1,170.50	North Carolina .....	2,209.60
Colorado .....	224.60	North Dakota .....	200.20
Connecticut .....	49.00	Ohio .....	1,114.50
Delaware .....	71.30	Oklahoma .....	1,491.90
Florida .....	853.40	Oregon .....	367.60
Georgia .....	1,670.70	Pennsylvania .....	1,060.70
Hawaii .....	137.70	Puerto Rico .....	574.20
Idaho .....	320.00	Rhode Island .....	12.50
Illinois .....	1,737.30	South Carolina .....	720.70
Indiana .....	843.00	South Dakota .....	272.90
Iowa .....	966.90	Tennessee .....	1,528.90
Kansas .....	742.40	Texas .....	3,774.60
Kentucky .....	1,131.70	Utah .....	293.00
Louisiana .....	953.80	Vermont .....	73.10
Maine .....	100.80	Virginia .....	794.20
Maryland .....	230.80	Washington .....	603.10
Massachusetts .....	87.40	West Virginia .....	516.30
Michigan .....	1,040.00	Wisconsin .....	1,388.70
Minnesota .....	984.30	Wyoming .....	130.60
Mississippi .....	1,010.50		
Missouri .....	1,172.40		
Montana .....	225.00		
Nebraska .....	552.10		
Nevada .....	35.40		
New Hampshire .....	42.50		
		<b>TOTAL DUES COLLECTED</b>	
		(Exhibits "B" and "C") .....	<b>\$37,159.20</b>

**FUTURE FARMERS SUPPLY SERVICE****Balance Sheet**

June 30, 1954

**ASSETS**

## Current:

Cash in Bank.....	\$ 26,925.08
Petty Cash .....	20.00
Accounts Receivable—Customers .....	7,019.97
Accounts Receivable—Returned Checks.....	97.35
Accounts Receivable—Future Farmers of America	17,500.00
Merchandise Inventory .....	68,613.67

Total Current Assets.....	\$120,176.07
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## Prepaid Expenses:

Stationery and Supplies.....	\$ 4,000.00	
Insurance .....	2,736.66	
Miscellaneous .....	951.65	7,688.31

## Fixed:

Fixed:	Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Net	
Furniture and Fixtures	\$15,143.15	\$3,959.85	\$11,183.30	
Trucks .....	4,377.11	745.95	3,631.16	
Leasehold Improvements	4,105.50	1,315.32	2,790.18	17,604.64

## Other:

Utility Deposit.....	45.00
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Total Assets .....	\$145,514.02
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**LIABILITIES**

## Current:

Accounts Payable .....	\$ 11,124.74
Withheld Taxes .....	770.24
Bond Deductions Payable.....	187.53
Excise Tax Payable.....	86.04
Accrued Payroll .....	749.25
Accrued Taxes .....	92.64

Total Current Liabilities.....	\$ 13,010.44
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## Deferred Income:

Deposits on Sales.....	2,167.22
Total Liabilities .....	<u>\$ 15,177.66</u>

## NET WORTH

Surplus, July 1, 1953.....	\$116,206.62	
Add: Excess of Income for the Year (Ex. B) .....	\$38,785.71	
Refund of Unemployment Comp. Tax .....	3,630.00	42,415.71
		<u>\$158,622.33</u>
Less: Distribution to Future Farmers of America .....	\$ 7,500.00	
Grants to States.....	20,785.97	28,285.97
		<u></u>
Surplus, June 30, 1954.....		130,336.36
Total Liabilities and Net Worth.....		<u>\$145,514.02</u>

**THE NATIONAL FUTURE FARMER****Balance Sheet**

June 30, 1954

## ASSETS

Cash in Bank.....	\$ 265.48	
Accounts Receivable—Subscriptions .....	68.35	
Prepaid Insurance.....	13.33	
Prepaid Magazine Costs.....	3,150.09	
Inventory of Office Supplies.....	400.00	
Furniture and Fixtures.....	\$4,102.06	
Less: Accumulated Depreciation.....	656.74	3,445.32
		<u></u>
Total Assets .....		<u>\$ 7,342.57</u>

## LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable .....	\$ 1,594.35	
Employees' Withheld Taxes.....	267.88	
Loan Payable (Future Farmers of America, Inc.).....	44,500.00	
Unearned Subscription Income.....	25,111.31	
		<u></u>
Total Liabilities .....		71,473.54

## NET WORTH

Operating Deficit (Schedule A-1) .....	<u>\$64,130.97</u>
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## Awards and Contests

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On Tuesday evening, October 12, the Star Farmer Awards were presented by the National Vice Presidents from the respective regions, in the Main Arena of the Municipal Auditorium. The winners were as follows:

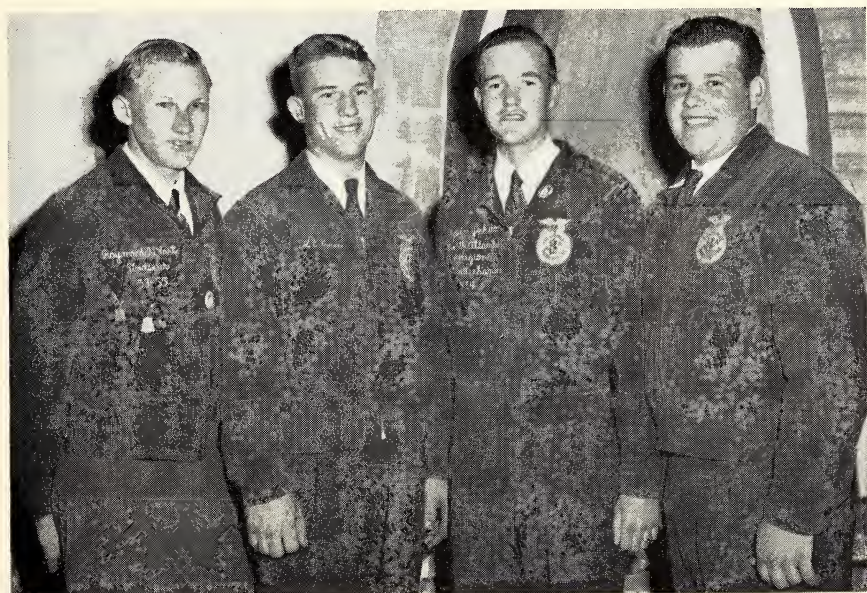
Star Farmer of America—Burd W. Schantz, Alburtis, Pennsylvania

Star Farmer, Southern Region—Davis Henry, Hope Hull, Alabama

Star Farmer, Central Region—Gilbert V. Mattes, Allen, Nebraska

Star Farmer, Pacific Region—William Jay Wright, Alamo, Nevada

A check for \$1,000 went to Schantz and checks for \$500 were given the other three Star Farmers named.



### WINNERS OF THE NATIONAL FARM MECHANICS AWARDS

(Left to right)—Raymond S. DeHart, Virginia, 1st Place; Fred V. Kruse, Illinois, Central Regional Winner; Homer John Yokum, West Virginia, North Atlantic Regional Winner; and John Weisz, Oregon, Pacific Regional Winner.

Other national awards were presented on Wednesday evening, October 13, in the Main Arena of the Municipal Auditorium. Farm Mechanics Award winners were presented by Student Secretary

Zumwalt, and each winner received a check given on behalf of the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Incorporated. The winners were:

1st Place—Raymond S. DeHart, Bland, Virginia.....	\$250.00
Central Region—Fred V. Kruse, Kilbourne, Illinois.....	200.00
North Atlantic Region—	
Homer John Yokum, Harman, West Virginia.....	200.00
Pacific Region—John Weisz, Gervais, Oregon.....	200.00



#### WINNERS OF THE NATIONAL FARM ELECTRIFICATION AWARDS

(Left to right)—Donald Sanford, Jr., Alabama, 1st Place; Wayne Hughes, Wisconsin, Central Regional Winner; Donald M. Gehrmann, Delaware, North Atlantic Regional Winner; and Rasmus E. Indreland, Montana, Pacific Regional Winner.

Farm Electrification Award winners were presented by Vice President Schultheis, and each winner received a check given on behalf of the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Incorporated. The winners were:

1st Place—Donald Sanford, Jr., Jasper, Alabama.....	\$250.00
Central Region—Wayne Hughes, Knapp, Wisconsin....	200.00
North Atlantic Region—	
Donald M. Gehrmann, Wyoming, Delaware.....	200.00
Pacific Region—	
Rasmus E. Indreland, Harlowton, Montana.....	200.00





#### WINNERS OF THE NATIONAL DAIRY FARMING AWARDS

(Left to right)—Clay Pruett, Kentucky, Central Regional Winner; Titus Albarado, Louisiana, Southern Regional Winner; Arthur Willardsen, Utah, Pacific Regional Winner; and William Pulver, New York, 1st Place.

Dairy Farming Award winners were announced by President Boyne, and each winner received a check given on behalf of the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Incorporated. Awards had previously been made in Waterloo, Iowa, during the National Dairy Cattle Congress. The winners were:

1st Place—William W. Pulver, Pine Plains, New York..\$250.00

Southern Region—

Titus Ward Albarado, Carencro, Louisiana..... 200.00

Central Region—Clay Pruett, Winchester, Kentucky.... 200.00

Pacific Region—Arthur Willardsen, Ephraim, Utah..... 200.00

Soil and Water Management Award winners were presented by Vice President James, and each winner received a check given on behalf of the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Incorporated. The winners were:

1st Place—Wilbur Lawrence, Ashland, Virginia.....\$250.00

Central Region—John R. Musgrave, Stilesville, Indiana 200.00

North Atlantic Region—

Frank Demarest, Lafayette, New Jersey..... 200.00

Pacific Region—Wayne David, Arvin, California..... 200.00



**WINNERS OF  
THE NATIONAL SOIL AND WATER MANAGEMENT AWARDS**

(Left to right)—Wilbur Lawrence, Virginia, 1st Place; Wayne David, California, Pacific Regional Winner; John R. Musgrave, Indiana, Central Regional Winner; and Frank Demarest, New Jersey, North Atlantic Regional Winner.

Farm Safety Award winners were presented by Vice President Rigney, and each winner received a check given on behalf of the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Incorporated. The winners were:

1st Place—Fort Pierce Chapter, Florida.....\$250.00

Pacific Region—

Phoenix Technical Chapter, Phoenix, Arizona..... 200.00

North Atlantic Region—Ripley Chapter, West Virginia 200.00

Central Region—Bottineau Chapter, North Dakota..... 200.00





**REPRESENTATIVES OF  
CHAPTERS WINNING NATIONAL FARM SAFETY AWARDS**

(Left to right)—Warren Durham, Fort Pierce, Florida, Chapter, 1st Place Winner; Glen Brandjord, Bottineau, North Dakota, Chapter, Central Regional Winner; Paul Smith, Ripley, West Virginia, Chapter, North Atlantic Regional Winner; and Dale Deal, Phoenix Technical Chapter, Phoenix, Arizona.

## The Chapter Contest

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Ninety-nine Future Farmers of America local chapters were honored at the 27th national convention in Kansas City during the presentation of awards in the organization's National Chapter Contest.

The National FFA Chapter Contest, conducted annually by the organization, is designed to encourage and reward chapter effort, stimulate group action among members, and to encourage improvement in local chapter programs of work. Both the interest shown and the actual accomplishments over a period of years give ample evidence of the effectiveness of this event. The Chapter Contest has been a valuable aid in stimulating both individual and cooperative effort and in crystallizing chapter programs of work into a series of worthwhile undertakings.

Chapters were grouped into Gold Emblem, Silver Emblem, Bronze Emblem and Honorable Mention classifications, according to their records of accomplishments in supervised farming, cooperative activities, community service, leadership activities, earnings and savings by members, conduct of meetings, scholarship of members, recreation and other general activities.

Each chapter in the contest had been selected locally to be entered in the national competition. Emblem winners received plaques designating their award and the Honorable Mention group received certificates. The ninety-nine chapters in the national contest represent the best from the Future Farmers of America's 8,793 local chapters. The 1954 winners were:

### Gold Emblem Classification

Geneva Chapter	Quincy Chapter, Quincy, Florida
Geneva, Alabama	Blakely-Union Chapter
Riverton Chapter	Blakely, Georgia
Huntsville, Alabama	Franklin Chapter
Amphitheater Chapter	Franklin, Illinois
Tucson, Arizona	Lexington Chapter
Phoenix Technical Chapter	Lexington, Illinois
Phoenix, Arizona	Pearl City Chapter
Conway Chapter	Pearl City, Illinois
Conway, Arkansas	Williamsfield Chapter
Lakeside Chapter	Williamsfield, Illinois
Hot Springs, Arkansas	Delphi Chapter, Delphi, Indiana
Hanford Chapter	Audubon Chapter
Hanford, California	Audubon, Iowa
Bent Chapter	Scenic City Chapter
Las Animas, Colorado	Iowa Falls, Iowa
Saddle and Grate Chapter	Athlison County Chapter
Camden-Wyoming, Delaware	Effingham, Kansas

Athens Chapter  
     Lexington, Kentucky  
 Delhi Chapter, Delhi, Louisiana  
 Slidell Chapter  
     Slidell, Louisiana  
 Agawam Chapter  
     Agawam, Massachusetts  
 Cassopolis Chapter  
     Cassopolis, Michigan  
 Williamston Chapter  
     Williamston, Michigan  
 Brainerd Chapter  
     Brainerd, Minnesota  
 Inverness Chapter  
     Inverness, Mississippi  
 Jasper Chapter  
     Jasper, Missouri  
 Flathead Chapter  
     Kalispell, Montana  
 Huntley Project Chapter  
     Worden, Montana  
 Waverly Chapter  
     Waverly, Nebraska  
 Newton Chapter  
     Newton, New Jersey  
 Woodstown Chapter  
     Woodstown, New Jersey  
 Artesia Chapter  
     Artesia, New Mexico  
 Hatch Chapter  
     Hatch, New Mexico

Bath Chapter  
     Bath, North Carolina  
 Rugby Chapter  
     Rugby, North Dakota  
 Bremen Chapter, Bremen, Ohio  
 Chouteau Chapter  
     Chouteau, Oklahoma  
 Fort Cobb Chapter  
     Fort Cobb, Oklahoma  
 Chester County  
     Henderson, Tennessee  
 Clifton Chapter, Clifton, Texas  
 Iraan Chapter, Iraan, Texas  
 Lamar Chapter  
     Rosenberg, Texas  
 Nacogdoches Chapter  
     Nacogdoches, Texas  
 Box Elder Chapter  
     Brigham City, Utah  
 Bland Chapter, Bland, Virginia  
 North River Chapter  
     Mt. Solon, Virginia  
 Rocky Gap Chapter  
     Rocky Gap, Virginia  
 Martinsburg Chapter  
     Martinsburg, West Virginia  
 Ripley Chapter  
     Ripley, West Virginia  
 Burlington Chapter  
     Burlington, Wyoming

#### Silver Emblem Classification

Guilford-Madison Chapter  
     Guilford, Connecticut  
 Stephen Babcock Chapter  
     Middletown, Delaware  
 Bartow Chapter  
     Bartow, Florida  
 Trenton Chapter  
     Trenton, Florida  
 Moultrie Chapter  
     Moultrie, Georgia  
 Kapaa Chapter  
     Kapaa, Kauai, Hawaii  
 White Lick Valley Chapter  
     Plainfield, Indiana  
 Waverly Chapter  
     Waverly, Iowa  
 Holton Chapter, Holton, Kansas

Old Kentucky Home Chapter  
     Bardstown, Kentucky  
 Gorham Chapter  
     Gorham, Maine  
 Sandusky Chapter  
     Sandusky, Michigan  
 Forest Lake Chapter  
     Forest Lake, Minnesota  
 Winona Chapter  
     Winona, Minnesota  
 Harrison Chapter  
     Harrison, Nebraska  
 Churchill County Chapter  
     Fallon, Nevada  
 Virgin Valley Chapter  
     Bunkerville, Nevada



Linton Chapter  
 Linton, North Dakota  
 Jeromesville Chapter  
 Jeromesville, Ohio  
 Spencerville Chapter  
 Spencerville, Ohio  
 District No. 5 Chapter  
 Duncan, South Carolina  
 Woodruff Chapter  
 Woodruff, South Carolina  
 Alvin Chapter, Alvin, Texas

Livingston Chapter  
 Livingston, Texas  
 Pleasant Grove Chapter  
 Pleasant Grove, Utah  
 Mt. Baker Chapter  
 Deming, Washington  
 Wapato Chapter  
 Wapato, Washington  
 Greybull Chapter  
 Greybull, Wyoming

#### Bronze Emblem Classification

Montevallo Chapter  
 Montevallo, Alabama  
 Harrison Chapter  
 Harrison, Arkansas  
 Paris Chapter, Paris, Arkansas  
 Rocky Ford Chapter  
 Rocky Ford, Colorado  
 Housatonic Valley Chapter  
 Falls Village, Connecticut  
 Greenville Chapter  
 Greenville, Georgia  
 Molokai Chapter  
 Hoolehua, Molokai, Hawaii  
 New Albany Chapter  
 New Albany, Indiana  
 Murray Training Chapter  
 Murray, Kentucky  
 Anacoco Chapter  
 Anacoco, Louisiana

Alva Chapter  
 Sweatman, Mississippi  
 Marshall Chapter  
 Marshall, Missouri  
 Ozark Chapter, Ozark, Missouri  
 Dryden Chapter  
 Dryden, New York  
 Waverly Chapter  
 Waverly, New York  
 Clark Chapter  
 Clark, South Dakota  
 Dickson Chapter  
 Dickson, Tennessee  
 Ooltewah Chapter  
 Ooltewah, Tennessee  
 North Troy-Newport Center  
 Chapter  
 North Troy, Vermont

Judges for the 1954 National Chapter Contest were: E. J. Johnson, Program Specialist in Agricultural Education, Pacific Region; R. E. Naugher, Program Specialist in Agricultural Education, Southern Region; A. W. Tenney, Program Specialist in Agricultural Education, Central Region; and H. N. Hansucker, Program Specialist in Agricultural Education, North Atlantic Region.

## Star Farmer Awards

Since 1929, Star Farmers have been selected annually from the American Farmer Candidates, receiving the Degree at the time



(1)—BURD W. SCHANTZ  
Alburtis, Pennsylvania  
1954 Star Farmer of America

(2)—DAVIS HENRY  
Hope Hull, Alabama  
1954 Star Farmer of  
Southern Region

(3)—GILBERT V. MATTES  
Allen, Nebraska  
1954 Star Farmer of  
Central Region

(4)—W. JAY WRIGHT  
Alamo, Nevada  
1954 Star Farmer of  
Pacific Region



of the National FFA Convention. The records of outstanding candidates were reviewed by the following individuals:

Mr. W. A. Roberts, President, Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company, Milwaukee, Wisconsin;

Mr. F. G. Gurley, President, The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway System, Chicago, Illinois;

Mr. Dean Bedford, Marketing Department, Farm Service Division, Esso Standard Oil Company, New York, New York;

Mr. Raymond C. Firestone, Executive Vice President, Firestone Tire & Rubber Company, Akron, Ohio;

Mr. Thomas J. Watson, Chairman of the Board, International Business Machines Corporation, New York, New York;

Mr. J. L. McCaffrey, President, International Harvester Company, Chicago, Illinois;

Mr. James F. Lincoln, Chairman of the Board, Lincoln Electric Company, Cleveland, Ohio;

Mr. William G. Werner, Director of Public Services, Procter and Gamble Company, Cincinnati, Ohio;

Mr. E. J. Condon, Vice President, Sears, Roebuck and Company, Chicago, Illinois;

Mr. Byrnes MacDonald, Assistant to the President, Sinclair Oil Corporation, New York, New York;

Mr. Lewis M. Parsons, Vice President, United States Steel Corporation, Washington, D. C.;

Mr. Roderick Turnbull, Editor, The Weekly Star Farmer, Kansas City, Missouri.

### BURD SCHANTZ

#### Star Farmer of America

A mother's determination to keep her son on the farm and the boy's willingness to work led to Burd Schantz's record of accomplishments that won him the title of Star Farmer of America.

Mr. Schantz died when Burd was 13 years old. The 65 acre home farm, purchased when the boy was two, had been devoted to the production of poultry, and Burd didn't like the idea of raising chickens all his life. He preferred cattle.

"I decided if it took cattle to keep him on the farm I'd let him get them," Mrs. Schantz said. "He always said this farm was big enough for chickens and cows both, and it's turned out he's right."

Mrs. Schantz took another long step when she decided to pay transportation costs to send Burd to Kutztown High School, 12 miles away, where he could take a course in vocational agriculture. The local school offered no agriculture in its curriculum.

Burd never did get away from raising chickens, but he has made a fine start in establishing himself in the dairy farming busi-



ness. He raised chickens to earn money to buy his first heifer calf, paying \$150 for a registered Holstein in the late summer of 1947. That fall he bought two more about the same age, and three more in the spring of 1948 that cost \$250 each.

Burd's records show he earned \$1,554.84 raising chickens that first year. He spent \$1,200 of it for heifer calves.

"Every time I'd get some money from my chickens I'd turn right around and put it into the dairy," he said.

His plan worked, despite the fact that when his heifers first started producing in 1949 they gave him seven bull calves in a row. They made up for it the next year with seven heifer calves. It was in 1949, when Burd was starting his junior year in high school, that he remodeled part of the old barn for a milking parlor, bought a milking machine, built a milk house, and obtained other equipment needed for producing Grade A milk. The barn, built in 1878, had been used for raising poultry and storing feed. Schantz still keeps about 1,200 birds in one wing. He recently had to do some more remodeling to expand his milking facilities, and the milk house already is becoming too small to be adequate for his expanding herd.

His producing herd of registered cows now totals 22, with 22 heifers growing into his plans for expansion. Attesting to the quality of his cattle is their production record last year averaging 14,005 pounds of milk and 510.9 pounds of butterfat per cow. The Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association gives an award for exceptional accomplishment in dairy herd improvement to farmers whose herds average above 400 pounds of butterfat per year.

In addition to that thriving enterprise, he's raising 1,200 capons that will be ready for the Christmas market, and he's in 50 percent partnership with Mrs. Schantz in raising pullets that are sold for egg production. They raised 8,000 pullets this year, mostly New Hampshire Reds and White Leghorns.

All the crops on the farm belong exclusively to Burd. He raises corn and small grains on 70 acres of cropland included in the home farm and two other small farms that he rents, and has an additional 45 acres for pasture and hay. He has reseeded the pastures to a grass-legume mixture, fertilizes them regularly and makes extensive use of electric fences to rotate grazing.

All of the grain and hay produced on the farm goes into feed for the dairy cattle or for Burd's chickens.

When Burd first started his dairy herd all machinery on the place was horse drawn, and not very good at that. Mrs. Schantz hired a man to do the plowing and other field work during the first year after her husband's death, but soon decided the practice didn't pay.

"By the time I finished paying the hired man and feeding the horses there wasn't anything left," she said. "I told Burd that if there were any crops raised he was going to have to raise them."

During the last seven years Burd has replaced the horses with two tractors and has a full line of equipment to go with them. He purchased all the machinery new. A new silo, 12 feet in diameter and 60 feet high also has been added to the farm.

"I figured I was going to be farming a long time and there wasn't any sense buying machinery somebody else had worn out," he says.

He has done custom work for neighbors with his combine, corn picker, and baler to help pay the cost of the machinery. He hires a 17 year old boy to help with work on the farm.

With all his investment in livestock, machinery, and other equipment, Burd has had neither the time nor money to do much "fixing up" around the home. The buildings are neatly painted and sturdy, but the Schantz farm is no showplace. Burd will take care of that angle later, especially if his matrimonial plans with a neighborhood girl work out. Right now, he's concentrating on paying off about \$4,500 he owes on equipment and cattle.

He has a sister living in Florida, and Mrs. Schantz would like to sell the home farm to Burd soon and spend part of her time in each State.

Burd doesn't have any really definite ideas about what he wants to accomplish in the future except that he'll stay in the dairy business.

"I'll just keep on expanding, and I guess the rest will take care of itself," he says.

His expansion already amounts to the accumulation of a \$30,000 investment in farming over a period of seven years. Counting off the money he owes, he still can add his net worth at about \$25,000.

"He's earned it," says Raymond Heimbach, vocational agriculture teacher in Kutztown High School. "Burd works from five o'clock in the morning to eight o'clock at night most days, and the cows have to be milked at 5 A. M. and 5 P. M. every day, including Sundays."

Young Schantz does find some time to take an active part in community affairs. He is president of the local Young Farmers group and recently was chairman of the membership drive for the Berks County Farmers' Association. In addition, he holds membership in the Grange, Lutheran Church, Lehigh Valley Cooperative Dairy, Berks County Farmers' Association, Dairy Herd Improvement Association, and Berks County Cooperative Association. Last spring he was placed on the national honor roll of the Purebred Dairy Cattle Association and received a diploma in recognition of his achievement in dairy production.

#### JAY WRIGHT

##### Star Farmer—Pacific Region

Jay Wright, Star Farmer of the Pacific Region, is established in farming in the operation of a 586 head beef cattle ranch in an

equal three-way partnership with his father, John P. Wright, and an older brother, Kay Wright.

Their ranch is located in Pahrnagat Valley of Lincoln County in southeastern Nevada. The main operations of the ranch are located in the small community of Alamo which has a population of 400. Farming and ranching comprise the main industries of the Pahrnagat Valley with the chief enterprises being beef cattle raising, dairying and grain and forage production.

The rainfall averages seven inches and the climate is normally warm. Water for irrigation is precious; farming without it would be impossible. In one area the Wrights use a rubber hose 5 miles long to bring water down from a mountain spring to a cattle watering trough.

Jay attended the Pahrnagat Valley High School, graduating in 1952. Though the school's bus serves a large area, the enrollment is small, having an average attendance of only 30 students. All boys usually enroll in vocational agriculture and join the Future Farmers of America chapter.

Activities in the valley are chiefly confined to those emanating from the school and the local Latter Day Saints Church. The FFA is a major activity of the school. The Young Farmers organization and Farm Bureau also are active in the community.

The Wrights' ranching interests are scattered in the valley with holdings in five separate areas. From the lower lake bottom land to the pasture and forage crop land in the upper end of the valley the distance is about 18 miles. Their combined interests comprise a ranch with 572 acres owned by the family, plus range rights for grazing on public land.

Beef cattle feeding operations are carried on at feed yards located at the home ranch in Alamo and at corrals located at Hiko in the upper end of the valley. Cattle are fattened for market at the home ranch and breeding stock are fed during winter months at the upper place.

The partners finish out and ship to Los Angeles between 100 and 150 cattle each year. Cattle on feed average  $2\frac{1}{2}$  pounds gain per day and reach a high good or low choice grade before they are sold. Most of the feed used is home grown.

The Wrights have made extensive use of practices to improve their land in recent years and it has paid off in increased yields. Jay says their yield of corn for silage will average 35 tons per acres this year on land that just a few years ago was an alkali lake bottom. The average yield of corn silage in the valley is 16 tons per acre. Their yield of alfalfa hay is from 6 to 8 tons per acre while the average in the valley is 5 to 6 tons.

Normally, the three partners are able to handle all of the work of the ranch. "We have our work on a system and have made use of labor saving machinery and tools so that the drudgery has fairly well been taken out of most tasks," Jay says. "We have our main



irrigation ditches lined with concrete and have the farm land leveled where irrigation is no longer a hard job. This fall we'll be able to put up our corn silage without touching the corn by hand.

Drought conditions this past summer have forced the Wrights to rent pasture in another county 400 miles away but they offset the condition partially by making better use of their irrigated land, and bringing more waste land under irrigation.

Asked about the effect of lower prices for their cattle the past three years, Jay points out that their cattle raising is a continuing program so that over a period of years prices, good and bad, will be leveled out.

"Of course the high prices were welcome," he says, "but we can sell our crops through the cattle and still do all right most years."

Jay got his first start with cattle at six years of age when Mr. Wright gave him one cow. From normal increase and other cattle given for his work on the ranch, he had 26 head by the time he entered high school. By his junior year the herd numbered 34 head, and he had accumulated savings of \$5,400. Mr. Wright and the older brother, Kay, agreed to accept the cattle and money in return for a full one-third interest in the ranch.

Jay's early start was influenced considerably by Kay, now 30, who won the FFA's American Farmer degree in 1943.

"Jay decided long before he was in high school that he wanted to achieve as much in the FFA as Kay did," said Mr. Wright. "Kay told him what he'd have to do. He did it and then some."

An exceptional young leader, Jay is no stranger in national FFA activities. He visited the national convention in Kansas City first as a member of the Nevada FFA livestock judging team in 1950. He was back in 1951 as the State FFA president serving as one of the two official delegates from Nevada, and was appointed to the important nominating committee.

The following year, 1952, Jay attended the national convention to receive the Pacific Region Soil and Water Management award, given for his part in the extensive land reclamation and conservation work that had been done on the Wright ranch. Last year found him active in the convention again, this time with the job of organizing a crew of FFA ushers to help handle the crowds at the FFA's big Silver Anniversary celebration.

Jay's time in the FFA is running out. He has just one more year of eligibility for membership. But there's one more goal he would like to achieve in the organization. He has submitted his record for consideration by the 1954 delegates as a candidate for one of the six national officer posts.

#### DAVIS HENRY

Star Farmer—Southern Region

A life-long interest in dairying was rewarded at the national FFA convention when Davis Henry, 20-year old Future Farmer

from Hope Hull, Alabama, was named Star Farmer of the South.

The young Montgomery County dairyman, a member of the Sidney Lanier FFA chapter, milked his first cow when he was three years old. His father, J. P. Henry, started giving Davis 25 cents a week for working around the farm when he was five years old. He doubled the allowance each year until, at 9, the boy was getting \$2.00 a week. Davis saved up enough to put down a \$12.50 payment on a dairy cow.

He took advantage of every opportunity he had to increase the number of his cattle. By the time he enrolled in high school vocational agriculture in 1948 he had acquired nine registered Guernsey heifers and had \$393.75 in government bonds. After entering the FFA, he cashed the bonds to buy more cattle.

Davis was graduated from high school in the spring of 1951. By that time, his dairy herd had increased to 20 cows, 22 heifers, and 21 calves. He also had developed a herd of 45 beef cattle.

"I paid for the use of my father's equipment with my own labor," Davis wrote in his American Farmer degree application. "At the end of four years I had enough livestock and working capital to buy into a 50-50 partnership with my father."

Since graduation from high school and entering the partnership, Davis has worked on building up the herd to its present size of 182 cows, 86 heifers, and 18 calves. A new dairy barn has been constructed with all the latest labor-saving conveniences and sanitary equipment. Milk is never touched by hand as it is taken by a vacuum tank milker system directly from the cow through glass tubes to the cooler and storage tank.

Among other improvements is a trench type silo which will hold 1,500 tons of silage. Four man-made lakes furnish an abundance of water for livestock and they are well stocked with game fish for family recreation. The lakes also furnish water for supplemental irrigation on the farm.

While other pastures were parching this year due to the drought in Alabama, Davis' cows were enjoying plenty of grazing made possible by good farming practices. When neighbors were feeding silage because pastures were not furnishing enough grazing, Davis was cutting excessive growth for hay and silage.

The value of the dairy cattle on the farm has been increased by the use of high grade bulls. The three herd bulls' dams averaged 21,475 lbs. of milk and 939 lbs of butterfat. Dairy Herd Improvement Association tests are used to cull all low producers.

Davis has an outstanding leadership record in FFA. He has been vice president and secretary of the Sidney Lanier chapter and worked on numerous committees. He was named Star Dairy Farmer in Alabama in 1951 for his work in dairying. He has also been a member of the winning Sidney Lanier FFA dairy judging team and has won numerous awards in showmanship contests over the years.

In four years of showing his dairy cattle, he received \$1,215 in awards which he has invested in his farming program.

In addition to his part of the dairy herd, Davis has eight beef heifers, two horses, 90 laying hens, 210 acres of oats, 80 acres of Johnson grass, 90 acres of Dallas grass, 18 acres of Sudan grass, 50 acres of wheat, 281 acres of improved pasture consisting of clovers, Johnson grass and Dallas grass, 18 acres of soybeans, 52 acres of Hegari. The home farm contains 440 acres, and they rent an additional 289 acres.

Mr. Henry has almost become the silent partner in their agreement, leaving most of the responsibility of running the dairy up to Davis. In the agreement Davis uses his labor to offset the value of land and equipment not paid for when he merged into partnership with his father.

### GILBERT V. MATTES

#### Star Farmer—Central Region

Gilbert V. Mattes, a 19-year old young farmer from northeast Nebraska, typifies the spirit of the Future Farmers of America. Backed with four years of vocational agriculture study at Allen Consolidated High School, active participation in the local FFA chapter, and close cooperation by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jay L. Mattes, Gilbert has achieved his lifelong ambition—successful establishment in farming.

Sharing his interest and love of farming now is his new partner, Darlene, 17-year old bride of four months. The last few months have been busy ones for Gilbert and Darlene, working together to set up housekeeping. Working during times they could spare from the farm chores, Gilbert and Mr. Mattes have built a neat, modern home adjacent to the family home occupied by the parents, their other son, Harlan, 14, and a daughter, Sally, 16.

Gilbert is operator and joint partner with his father in the 840-acre crop and livestock unit they call Springvale Stock Farm.

Gilbert started in his freshman year in vocational agriculture with a sow and litter project and two dairy heifers. His earnings of \$217.63 that first year enabled him to invest in three sows the following year, along with two calves for fattening.

During his sophomore year Gilbert rented a nearby 80 acres and put into practice what he was learning about soil conservation and crop production. He took over the hilly, sandy fields, typical of that section of Nebraska, started terracing and contouring, and seeded 10 acres of the worst part to sand lovegrass. Corn was planted on 52 acres and oats on 18.

At the same time, Mr. Mattes put the home farm under a soil conservation plan in cooperation with the local Soil Conservation District, with Gilbert having a major role in laying out fields and building terraces and waterways.



Gilbert's earnings from the livestock, corn, and oats totalled \$1,629.89 that year. During the next two years, he enlarged the cattle and swine enterprises and at the end of his senior year in school had a farming program that included 42 sows and litters, 8 head of breeding cattle, 24 head of fattening steers, 90 acres of corn, 40 acres of oats, and 30 acres of grass and legumes.

After his graduation, he was offered a one-fourth share of the family farm as his inheritance. He financed another one-fourth through a 20-year bank loan, and is now a 50 percent partner with his dad. Gilbert has agreed to pay all fuel and operating expenses on the farm until he has paid 50 percent of the value of the machinery that was owned by Mr. Mattes when they started the partnership.

During his junior year in school Gilbert started building up a purebred beef herd, starting first with a registered Polled Hereford cow with a calf at its side. His old grade herd has been gradually replaced with registered animals, now numbering 34 head.

Gilbert plans to build up the Polled Hereford herd and eventually sell the surplus in purebred shows and sales.

He went the other direction in his swine enterprise. His early purebred hog projects have been switched over to a commercial basis, using registered boars on grade sows. Forty-five litters were raised this year, using a Duroc-Hampshire cross.

Long range plans for the Springvale Stock Farm are based on raising enough corn to feed out about 100 head of steers annually in addition to the hogs, and raising enough grass and legumes to keep the beef breeding herd.

From the time Mr. Mattes bought the farm 12 years ago until the present, there has been constant improvement in the soil, the farm buildings, equipment, and the yards.

Gilbert took over many of these activities as improvement projects in the FFA. He built neat picket fences; put up a new machine shed and shop installed with tools to take care of most farm repair jobs; built a dehorning chute, feed bunks, and hog feeders. A windbreak of trees he helped to plant now offers good protection to the farmstead. Gullies on the farm have been controlled with mechanical structures and grass seedings. Good rotations and the fertility-building livestock enterprises have materially improved the soil.

Gilbert has an outstanding record in FFA and community work. He served as vice president and president of the Allen FFA chapter, was on the state FFA dairy judging team, and has attended state and national FFA conventions. In high school he was sports editor of the school paper and vice president of the Student Council.

His active work in church for the past several years has led to his being named Superintendent of the Sunday School. Other in-

terests include flying—he got a pilot's license when he was 17 years old. He is active in the 4-H Club, and Farm Bureau.

Both Gilbert and Darlene are enthusiastic about farming and their future in the business. During the rush harvest seasons, Darlene often pitches in to help with chores and tractor work.

“You couldn't ask for a better life,” Gilbert states. “You have the freedom and peace of the country, you make your own recreation, and you have a chance to build your own future.”

## Public Speaking Contest

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The Annual National FFA Public Speaking Contest was first made possible in 1930 through the interest and generosity of Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas who, for two years sponsored the event and offered prizes. From that time until 1944 the national organization of Future Farmers of America was the sponsor. During the past ten years the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Incorporated, sponsored the contest and gave the awards.

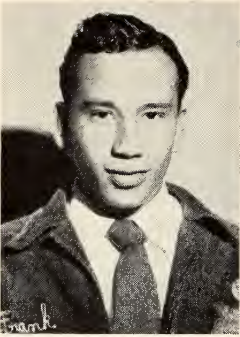
The Twenty-fifth National FFA Public Speaking Contest took place in the Main Arena of the Municipal Auditorium on Monday, October 11. The five finalists placing in the order indicated were.

1. Dennis O'Keefe, Westerville, Ohio—"What Have We Done?"
2. Frank Alameda, Jr., Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii—"Mulching, a Part of Soil Conservation"
3. Norman Koch, Williamsport, Pennsylvania—"Milk for the Millions"
4. Timothy Ballard, Issaquah, Washington—"A Challenge in Agriculture"
5. Dabney Overton, Jr., Warsaw, Virginia—"Farmers at the Cross-Roads"

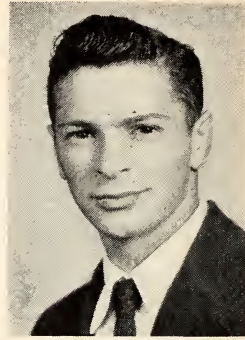
Each contestant was the author of his own speech, having studied his subject, prepared the draft and practiced its delivery. Each speech represented original thought and original work on the part of the contestant, with coaching on composition and delivery limited, by the rules of the contest, to facilities of the school from which the contestant came. Each boy was at liberty to choose his own subject.

The contest was judged by three competent persons. Prior to the contest the judges were furnished with typewritten copies of the contestant's productions which they read and graded on content and composition. At the contest the judges scored each contestant on his production. A maximum of 300 points was allowed for the written production and 700 points for delivery. Questions were asked by the judges to test each contestant on his ability to think on his feet and on general knowledge of his subject.

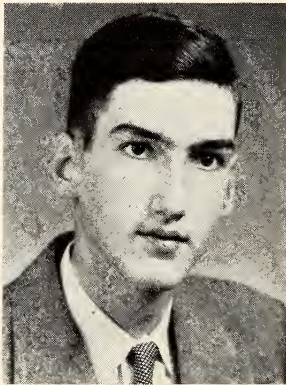




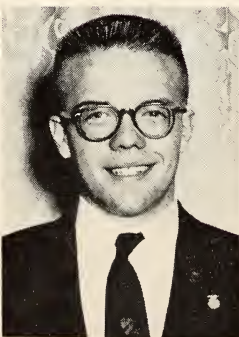
FRANK ALAMEDA, JR.



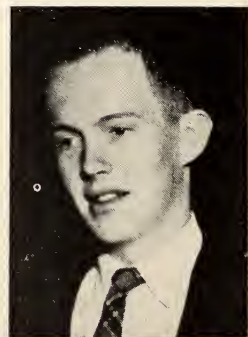
NORMAN KOCH



DENNIS O'KEEFE



TIMOTHY BALLARD



DABNEY OVERTON, JR.

The judges were:

Ralph L. Foster, Managing Editor, "Capper's Farmer", Topeka, Kansas

Frank Jenks, Vice President, International Harvester Company, Chicago, Illinois

Robert D. McMillen, Assistant to the Secretary, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

The timekeepers were:

Chris Stritzinger, Advertising and Sales Promotion Manager, Butler Manufacturing Company, Kansas City, Missouri

J. Willard Olander, National Livestock Company, Kansas City, Missouri

### WHAT HAVE WE DONE?

By Dennis O'Keefe, Westerville, Ohio

Last year President Eisenhower addressed the Twenty-Fifth National Convention of Future Farmers of America with these words: ". . . I want to extend my warm congratulations on the silver anniversary of your splendid organization."

Since 1928, the FFA has grown from a group of about 10,000 to more than 350,000 farm boys producing food for world demands. What has caused this rapid growth; what does the FFA have to offer; what has the FFA done for so many farm boys?

In 1917, the Smith-Hughes Act was passed by Congress establishing vocational agriculture courses in high schools. These classes enabled farm boys to obtain a working, scientific knowledge of farming. The result was that the coming generation of farmers was better trained for its vast job of feeding the people of the United States. Still, there were neglected phases of the farm boy's life. He had no organized recreation, social life, or training for future leadership in his community.

In an attempt to meet this need, local organizations of vocational agriculture students began appearing in many sections of the country. A State organization was first established in Virginia with the name, Future Farmers of Virginia. However, these various organizations could not adequately meet this need for outside training. As a result, in 1928 leaders of the various groups met in Kansas City, Missouri, to form a national organization. Officers were elected, a constitution was adopted, and the group chose the name Future Farmers of America. And so, the FFA was under way. Now let us look at our accomplishments since 1928.

What has the FFA done in developing leadership? Leadership training begins in the local chapter through the planning and conducting of the chapter program by the members.

The FFA realized early that the ability of a farmer to express himself before a group of people was vitally important. Consequently in 1929, the Public Speaking Contest, one of the first national FFA contests, was inaugurated. The national contest has always been based on a prepared type of speech which teaches Future Farmers to organize a talk carefully so as to present the most interesting and convincing facts in an effective manner. In recent years some State associations have tried other types of speaking contests in addition to the memorized contest. Such types of speaking as outline, extemporaneous, and impromptu have been used. These types help to prepare FFA members for situations which the majority of them will encounter in everyday life.

Parliamentary procedure is another field in which the FFA offers leadership training. Proper business procedure is becoming more important to the farmer as he is participating in a larger number of meetings. The training received through the practice of parliamentary procedure in chapter meetings is emphatically demonstrated at our national convention by the ability of our national officers to conduct an orderly convention.

A third important phase of the leadership program is officer training. An FFA officer gains invaluable experience as he meets the many problems of the organization and learns to cope with them. An Officer Training Program at all levels helps the new officers to learn their specific duties, their problems, and how to carry out their responsibilities.

FFA conventions show the finished product of the leadership training program. As stated in the National Future Farmer Magazine, our national convention has gained steadily in national prominence because of the outstanding qualities of leadership displayed by Future Farmers there.

What have we done to provide recreation and social life for farm boys? The recreational and social program varies widely with each chapter, but some activities are almost universal.

The Annual FFA Banquet is a highlight of the social year. The program usually includes recognition of Honorary Future Farmers, awards to members, and presentation of the record of the past year's activities. The banquet helps to develop an understanding of the FFA program and its accomplishments among parents, teachers, and others interested in FFA work, and offers a challenge to FFA members.

Recreation on a State level has been greatly aided through the use of State FFA camps. To illustrate, the Ohio Association is very fortunate to have a million dollar campsite which provides boating, swimming, fishing, and sports of all kinds as well as a leadership and conservation program to nearly 1000 Ohio Future Farmers each year. As one of these campers for the past two years, I feel that my experiences there will prove invaluable.



Chapter trips are one of the most enjoyable and memorable experiences of the organization. Many boys say that if the FFA had not provided the opportunity, they would never have left their home State. My FFA travels have taken me through ten States and Washington, D. C. I will long remember my many experiences—walking the boardwalk in Atlantic City, playing in the National FFA Band, climbing Washington Monument in nine minutes, and walking over the battleground at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

What have we done toward community service and cooperation? The community service program includes conducting farm safety and fire prevention programs, beautifying the community, and conserving the natural resources on the farms. FFA members take a keen interest in the field of cooperation. We promote cooperative enterprises, and take advantage of co-ops available. By setting an example we try to show the value of cooperatives and their importance to the farmer today.

With this large program the FFA needs a substantial treasury. Local chapters are self-supporting and finance their programs through various money making projects.

The FFA Foundation provides awards to members for outstanding achievements. Money is contributed to the Foundation by business firms all over the country. The primary aim of these awards is to get as much recognition as possible down to local chapter members.

What has the FFA done toward improving scholarship? Many chapters offer awards for scholarship among their members, and on a State level, valedictorian awards are given. Agricultural scholarships are offered and worthy members are encouraged to apply for them. In general the FFA tries to promote good scholarship so students may obtain a well-rounded education.

What have we done in supervised farming? The FFA did not completely separate itself from the farming program of vo-ag students. The farming program is emphasized when a FFA member applies for his Chapter, State, or American Farm Degree. It is also considered when a Future Farmer makes application for special awards in farm electrification, farm mechanics, soil and water management, and dairy science. Also, each State has its Star State Farmer who competes for the Star American Farmer award. The story of Wayne Vogel, Star American Farmer from Ohio is an excellent example of the value of this program. Wayne began his vo-ag and FFA work while living on one acre. He now farms 160 acres, has a complete line of farm equipment, and is worth \$16,000—a long jump in seven years.

In conclusion I again ask, "What have we done?" The Future Farmers of America has developed a balanced program which meets the interests of farm boys in all fields, promotes efficiency in farming, and generally develops good citizenship in the young men of rural America.

I have outlined for you what we have done under this program in our first twenty-five years. What will we do in the next twenty-five? I am sure that with the fine leadership we have in our local, State and national FFA organizations we will be able to show bigger and better achievements in the years to come.

### MULCHING A PART OF SOIL CONSERVATION

By Frank Alameda, Jr., Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

I clearly remember that day. It was on December 28, 1953. I was visiting the farm of a friend, when all of a sudden Mother Nature decided to put on a show which she had not done for the past two years.

Our community had experienced one of the longest drought periods that any living person could remember. Rain had not fallen for a period of two years. Water was at a premium; rationing had been necessary for domestic use and livestock only; crops failed; grasses died; and as a result the ranges were dry and parched from the heat of the sun. Cattle were starving from lack of range grasses. In fact many died. The once rich producing soil was now bare of vegetation; many of the trees had died. The sun continued to beat down day after day and scorched the earth. Winds loosened the soil and dust was prevalent. The farmers, ranchers and their families were suffering from the loss of their usual income. Morale was low; their economic security was threatened. Then on this day mentioned Nature took over. She decided that perhaps man had suffered enough and perhaps had repented. From the skies came the necessary life giving water in the form of rain. It started as a mild light welcome drizzle, but unfortunately nature tried to do more than was necessary at the time. She could not control the amount of rain in relation to what the soil could absorb. The drizzle became a heavy rain, then, a downpour, and finally, a cloudburst. The dry-scorched surface of the soil could not absorb the moisture as fast as it fell. The large drops of rain pounded the earth like tiny bombshells. It broke up the surface which splattered the good earth. Excess water began to trickle down the gentle slopes. Trickle turned into tiny rivulets, rivulets into tiny streams, streams into gullies. The water carried all the fine, loose, topsoil of the farms, down the slopes, into gullies, and eventually down to the wastelands and to the ocean. Topsoil which took hundreds of years to form was lost in a few minutes, perhaps never to be reclaimed. The spell of the longest drought had been broken. In its place, irreparable damage, perhaps even greater than the drought itself, had been done. The land that was nonproductive during the drought perhaps would become hopelessly unproductive.

Was this Nature's method of punishing man for his negligence in the care of the soil? Man had learned to use the soil, to reap his harvest, and to take advantage of the fertility which Mother Nature

provided. However, did he practice preserving Nature's endowment? This I doubt very much. For had he done so, he would be employing some form or method of protecting the lands from dangers and topsoil would not be washed into the ocean.

The early settlers had large tracts of rich land on which to earn a livelihood. Wooded areas were cleared off. The natural leaf mulch and humus were burned up, or plowed under. Grass lands were deeply plowed, with no regard to systems, or methods of plowing, as long as the soil was turned. The settlers plowed both up and down the slopes, without regard to contour; just as long as the soil was turned. The results after years of mismanagement of the soil, you have heard me describe in the early part of this talk.

It is only recently that man and government have taken steps to study practical methods of soil management. Years of experimenting has finally resulted in what is considered the best means of saving our soils from destruction, namely mulching. Mulching is a cover, either natural or artificial whose primary purpose is to hold the topsoil in place.

Various types of mulching have been developed. These are soil mulch, stubble mulch, and man-made mulches. Different materials which may be used for mulching are sawdust, plane shavings, grasses, leaves, vegetable residues, wood chips, mulch paper, and bagasse, which is the fibrous remains of the cane stalk after the juices have been extracted in the process of manufacturing cane sugar. These are used to conserve the soil and to retain the moisture in the soil. The purposes of mulching are first, to conserve water; second, to control weed growth; third, to increase production, which is a direct result of the first two reasons, and fourth, and most important, to hold the soil in place.

This may be done in various ways: First, by planting cover crops, second, by leaving the stubble after harvest; third, by applying dry materials such as leaves, straw or grass clippings; and fourth, by using waste by-products such as sawdust, plane shavings, grain hulls, husks, and bagasse. The availability of the material to use is an important factor in the type of mulching done. Where the farm area is extremely large, cover cropping and stubble mulching are the most inexpensive and perhaps the most satisfactory to use. If the area to mulch is small, say 10 acres, and if material such as bagasse and plane shavings are available at a low cost they are perhaps the best to use. They will retain the moisture in the soil and keep weeds from growing; 2 or 3 inches of this type of mulch is the most satisfactory in that very little fermentation results and practically no spontaneous heat is generated.

According to the Office of Soil Conservation Service, mulching is one of the most effective means to conserve soil, save water, decrease labor and increase crop yields. It has been shown by this practice that by the application of 300 bags of plane shavings per acre to a depth of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 inches there was a marked improvement



of anywhere from 25 per cent to 50 per cent in production in some crops, due to a longer season of harvest. It showed improvement in quality and greater uniformity of produce. Besides this the labor saved in cultivation ran in some crops as high as 90 per cent. There was also a considerable saving in water requirements. The frequency of applications was reduced from four applications per week to one application. This also means a saving of 75 per cent of irrigation labor and a reduction up to 50 per cent of water applied. All this means a saving to the farmer, a reduction in his production cost, a greater profit to him, and most important the saving of our precious soil. The soil and water are the most important of our American heritage. These two, properly used, managed, and controlled are the very pulse of our nation. Let us constantly be on guard to conserve both. Each is useless without the other. We must heed the warnings past erosions have given us. Mulch our soil and we shall have full bread baskets till eternity.

### MILK FOR THE MILLIONS

By Norman Koch, Williamsport, Pennsylvania

Newspapers, radio newscasts, and many street corner conversations remind us daily that the dairy industry is in trouble. There's no doubt about it, our markets are weak, costs are high when the government cannot go on buying surplus butter and other dairy products to prevent a breakdown of the whole dairy industry. Something must be done and its becoming quite plain that it is up to the dairy farmer himself to do it.

Now let's look at some of the causes for this dilemma. The decline in butter consumption from 17 lbs. per person in 1940 to less than 8 lbs. in 1953 shows the result of competition from oleo, which jumped from 3 lbs. per person to almost 8 lbs. during that same period. It wasn't so long ago that oleo was almost unknown, now it is about as common as butter. With butter selling at twice the price of oleo is it any wonder then that at the present trend, butter is on its way out, as Secretary of Agriculture Benson warns.

Another important factor seems to lie in the fact that people are actually using less milk and milk products. The United States had 132 million customers in 1940 who used 109½ billion lbs. of milk. We now have 159 million customers or a 20% increase in population using only 5% more milk or an average rate of 115 billion lbs. We can only conclude from this that the dairy industry has not diminished.

Dairy leaders agree that the modern trend is away from the use of fats. This may be because people generally do not work as long and as hard as they once did and so are becoming calorie conscious. Consumption of milk products has changed too. Twelve

years ago butter took 42% of our milk, now it takes only 25%. The big opportunity then is the sale of milk as *milk*.

Now dairy leaders are seeing a ray of hope, for they realize that there are great opportunities in selling milk right now. Selling is the great hope in regaining our lost markets. It can, it must and it will be done. We must first understand however, that it's not going to be easy, and that it will cost money and effort.

Perhaps the problem is not so much a matter of overproduction as it is of underconsumption. With our population growing at the rate of several millions per year, we can expect a time not too far away when the word surplus in dairy products is erased, but only if this larger population knows about and demands the real health giving, wholesome food value of milk. We must inform, advertise and sell milk with a *bang*.

The American Dairy Association puts it this way. We have to prove to the consumer that they need more dairy products, that dairy products are good for them, and that dairy products are bargains in food value. Professor Bartlett of the University of Illinois, who has made an intensive study of this problem, believes that by 1960 the consumption of market milk and cream can be increased by 20% per person, and if we really become aggressive, it should be more like 30%. The huge butter surplus which is now stored in caves and government warehouses, and which is causing unfavorable public attitudes, is actually only 3% of our production. This surplus would quickly disappear with only a tiny increase in consumption. A professor at the Cornell school of nutrition estimates that if only one person in four used an extra glass of milk daily there would be no milk left to go into surplus butter. In selling milk therefore, we must not overemphasize butterfat but recognize the value of non-fat solids as well. Thus we can improve our markets for such things as cheese, ice cream, evaporated milk and dry milk solids. These are the things that have strong diet and health appeals. They are naturals for a food sales promotion.

In capturing these larger markets, the dairy industry must use straight off-the-shoulder sales campaigns. In the past, the dairy people have sold annually 4 billion dollars worth of products with an advertising budget of only 1/20th of one percent. The oleo industry uses over 5 times as much per year for advertising—and advertising sells.

The manufacturers of whiskey, beer and soaps to mention only a few, use from 6 to 12 times as much money for advertising as do dairymen. Is it any wonder then that we are undersold.

The American Dairy Association is leading a drive to make the nation dairy food conscious with an assessment of 2¢ per hundred-weight on milk and only 1/2¢ per lb. of butterfat, they are building a promotion fund that can do much not only to sell milk, but to improve the nation's health as well. Their study of consumer habits reveals that 90% of all children drink milk at all meals, while only

25% of all adults drink milk regularly. Our job is to prove that they too need milk, for there is no better health drink in all the world for old or young than a glass of milk.

Another great story waiting to be told to the consumers is that of milk calcium, so essential to adults as well as children. And milk and whole milk products supplies all the calcium we need. A quart of milk daily, costing less than a pack of cigarettes or a bottle of beer, will supply that calcium, as well as these sales building extras of proteins, minerals and vitamins.

Then too, the dairy industry can improve its markets through new products and selling methods. Automatic vending machines, which are now appearing in many cities, and lower cost big container selling will make milk easier to buy and pass the savings on to the consumer. Research can and will create new products that will offset the temporary advantage shown by some vegetable oil products. Some appetite appealing products now being developed are an 18% salad cream, and a milk concentrate that retains its flavor and the qualities of fresh milk. In short, the dairy industry must keep pace with modern trends in food tastes, and having done so we must supply the organization and money to tell our consumers why milk is the one perfect food for old and young. We must do this through radio, newspapers, and attractive color-ads in home magazines. We must tell and sell, morning, noon and night.

In doing this we have one great advantage, for unlike much competitive advertising that deceives and ignores the truth, we need merely *tell* the truth about milk, but we must tell it and believe in it. Then only can we fully restore our market and thus preserve the great dairy industry in which we FUTURE FARMERS so firmly believe.

### A CHALLENGE IN AGRICULTURE

By Timothy Ballard, Issaquah, Washington

On February 23, 1954, Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson made a speech urging farmers to speed up their land conservation programs in order to support the increased populations of the future.

By 1975, American farms will have increased 1953's production by 20%, if our nation is to be adequately fed. The United States Census Bureau estimates our population for 1975 at 193 million, meaning 35 million more persons to feed.

We can readily see that this 20% production increase will not be accomplished easily. The increasing of farm yields across the country is going to create the biggest single economic problem which has ever faced the United States. Its solution is a challenge to everyone who deals with agriculture.



The FFA Creed makes one statement especially applicable to this problem: "I believe in the future of farming with a faith born not of words but of deeds." My personal view is that the future of farming does not rest in the deeds of the past alone, but must be safeguarded henceforward by further deeds; intelligent actions. Food supply for an ever-increasing population should be the first consideration of all farmers of foresight. If agriculture is to continue as an efficient business as well as a laudable way of life, American farmers will have to look farther ahead than today's beef prices and tomorrow's weather report. Realization and analysis of the problem are the first steps.

China and India have experienced famine and privation for centuries. The food supply problem there arose through tremendous population increases, poor soil conservation, and lack of foresight. These same three forerunners of starvation are to be found today in the United States. In 1877 and 1878, China lost over 9 million persons through starvation. From 1769 to 1866, nearly 5 million in India died through a series of famines. Even today, with 7/10 of her population engaged in agriculture, India must still import food, and lives in constant fear of recurring famine. These peoples of Asia had to learn about food production problems through bitter experience; must we in America do the same?

Many factors will aid in our solution to this problem. Some shrink to relatively minor importance. Of the others, those factors which I believe should be stressed are: soil conservation, research, and education.

Under the general heading of soil conservation I would classify two closely related subdivisions: putting unusable land into production through reclamation projects; and maintaining and building soil fertility.

Putting unusable land into production is necessary in order to increase our productive acreage. Waste land can be found in any section of the country, but of the larger waste areas, 25 million acres of unproductive land in the West have yet to be irrigated, and 3 million acres of swamps have yet to be drained.

More thousands of acres of potential farmland lie in brush, trees and stumplands. Planned clearing of these lands will be made imperative in the next few years because of the demand for food. But planned clearing means just that: a sound program, leaving trees and brush on the banks of streams and clearing only where there is the least danger of erosion.

Some farmers will prefer to wait until the need hits us, before starting reclamation projects. The economic need for such projects will not be felt until consumer demand has outstripped supply and has raised prices beyond normal trends. However, if such projects are started at that time, the land would not produce for at least one year and possibly for as long as five years, depending on the nature of the reclamation methods used. I believe that the profits to be

accrued from being prepared at the right time will justify the risk involved. If the projects were planned and started now, and if the work were carried on during such slack seasons as may exist, the land could be made ready more efficiently and could be put into intensive use whenever conditions will warrant it. Meanwhile, although not farmed intensively, the land could be put into pasture, hay, or green manure crops.

Everyone who owns or manages a farm should start a soil conservation program. There is no cure-all in soil conservation measures, and therefore, each program must be adopted to the farm where it is to be used. Soil tests, planned fertilization, and a systematic crop rotation are the basic elements of most programs. If advice is needed, the State College Extension Service is made available to every farmer through his county agent.

Judging by the imprint which research has made on food production over the past twenty years, it is certain that agricultural research will play a major role in the solution of the food supply problem.

In the field of genetics, tremendous strides have been made in developing breeds of livestock which will produce food more and more efficiently. Improvements in plants have made it possible to obtain much higher yields without increasing crop acreage.

Research and invention in the field of farm mechanics have revolutionized agricultural methods. A report from Purdue University states that one hundred years ago it took a farmer five hours to produce a bushel of corn. Following World War I, he cut this time to 21 minutes, and today the modern Corn Belt farmer does the job in four minutes. This report shows the net results of one hundred years of research and improvement. Yet this is only the beginning, and past efforts are only a sample of what agricultural research can accomplish.

Education, the third point of the solution, is the co-ordinating factor, joining conservation and research with farmer and consumer. Food supply is the problem of the city man as well as that of the farmer. We can never hope to find a solution unless the entire public is cognizant of the present situation and is somewhat familiar with agricultural production problems.

In order to get the job done in a hurry, we can not rely only on formal education in high schools and colleges. Community clubs, Grange, Farm Bureau, 4-H, and FFA organizations can help on this facet of the solution to the problem. Educational meetings sponsored by such groups are a great help in getting conservation programs started.

Progress in agricultural methods, improvements in farm machinery, and an ever-increasing competition brought about by improved distribution and marketing have made farming a business, requiring a sound mind as well as a strong back. A formal education

in all agricultural courses relevant to the student's farming plans is good insurance. Education, tempered with experience, is an investment that will pay increasing dividends in modern agriculture.

In review of those points which I believe will constitute the most important components of a solution to the growing food supply problem, I wish to re-emphasize:

Conservation, comprised of carrying out large scale reclamation projects, such as drainage and irrigation; and establishing plans to maintain and increase soil fertility.

Research, not only in the laboratory, but on the farm as well; developing better breeds of animals, better species of plants, better types of machinery, and devising improved farm production methods.

Education, a vital factor, a goal which must be attained if the people of this nation are to co-operate in fighting mankind's oldest enemy—starvation.

In 1975, when our population nears 200 million, many of us now in the FFA will be directly faced with this all-important problem of food supply. We cannot accurately foretell how it will be solved, but I believe that if this country becomes aware of the situation in time, and if the proper steps are taken to alleviate this situation, we may continue to look ahead with confidence in our nation's farmers and in our American way of life, as we meet another challenge in agriculture.

### THE FARMER AT THE CROSS-ROADS

By Dabney Overton, Jr., Warsaw, Virginia

Honorable judges, esteemed opponents, (ladies and) gentlemen: It is my pleasure this evening to speak to you of "The Farmer at the Cross-roads".

Each of us is familiar with the legend of the cross-roads farmer, a picturesque figure turning his long furrows in the evening sun. We see him struggling with—never against—the forces of nature, tirelessly tending his soil, to reap the harvest of life for his children.

The cross-roads farm has been the well-spring of the strength of America. The spirit of freedom grows solidly in its soil. Few are the captains of industry, the leaders in other walks of life, who do not draw their force from such a farm home. This cross-roads farm has ever been the last rampart against those who would destroy our liberty, whatever the form of their attack.

It is of a different cross-roads, (ladies and) gentlemen, that I would speak. The American farmer today stands at the cross-roads of his very existence. America stands there with him. Down one road we see a future of equal opportunity for Agriculture, in a



strong, ever-growing America. Down the other, a withered Agriculture, a weak America.

In order that America may remain strong—that our American Dream may continue ever green—it is first of all necessary that Agriculture remain strong. In peace—or war—there is no synthetic for this.

That Agriculture may remain strong, the farmer *must* have the opportunity to earn an income at least equal to that of those in other walks of life. Unless we take pains to see that there is this equal opportunity, we cannot have the strong Agriculture indispensable to America's future. Inevitably, the sons of farmers will seek that opportunity elsewhere. Our farming will be done by the least ambitious, the least effective of our people.

How shall we achieve this equality of opportunity? America has labored with this question for a generation. Thus far, the only solution found even remotely feasible has been some form of price support program. These programs have achieved equality of opportunity. In the absence of a better solution, the farmer—and America—must hold to the principle of price supports unyieldingly.

On every hand there is the clamor: "Why should others be taxed to provide opportunity for the farmer?" Those who would destroy the price support program tell us that such a program has no place in a free enterprise system; that in such a system, the race is to the fleet; and no segment of our population has any right to look to our Government for support of its business policy.

Support by Government of essential enterprise has been a part of our way of life for more than a century. We gave an empire in the West to the railroads. The ship-builder, the air mail carrier, many others today receive direct subsidies. Many industries may avail themselves of huge tax write-offs, the very purpose and effect of which are to lessen the risks of private venture. How then is the conclusion reached that farm price supports are "creeping socialism", while industrial supports are just a healthy lift to free enterprise.

The American farmer is singularly entitled to Government support. The very factor which renders such support necessary is the same factor which has made Agriculture the last bulwark against the creeping "isms". The enduring strength of the farmer is his individualism, his will to be free. This very individualism makes price supports a necessity for him. The farmer has it immediately in his power to sweep away all possible necessity for dependence upon Government. If he would but organize, as Industry and Labor have organized, all need of any support program would vanish. He could then become the most ardent worshiper at the shrine of "supply and demand". But just as he has tended the tree of liberty so faithfully through the past, so he is now unwilling to yield up his freedom in order to buy equality in the market place. Fortunate it is for America! Think of the chaos, the mob violence,

which could result if the farmer were to exercise his legal right to control the food we eat! Thank God that this power is in the hands of none other than this last, unyielding free man, the American Farmer! However, it is this very unwillingness to organize which makes a support program essential. The preservation of his freedom and strength is worth the price to America.

There are those who would tell us that the farmer *would* yield up his freedom if we are to have price supports. They say that this is so because crop controls are inevitable under any price support program. Whether or not they are, it is not my purpose to argue. To the solution of this question—along with those as to the level of support and the elimination of surpluses—we must bend our best effort. With understanding and good-will America and her farmers can and will find the solution. Even if we assume, however, that crop control *is* indispensable to a successful price support program, does it necessarily follow that the American farmer, by accepting price supports, will trade his birthright for a mess of pottage?

Each of us dislikes the idea of controls. By our very nature, we resent the thought of being told that we may not grow more than 15 acres of wheat, or 25 acres of corn. For this reason, we are loath to face it, but the plain truth is that controls are inevitable if we do *not* have a price support program.

In order that America may be able always to meet whatever demand she may face—as she met the tremendous demands of the war years—we must have an Agriculture *capable* of producing more than a normal supply. Granted this ability to over-produce, we cannot leave the farmer entirely to the law of supply-and-demand. This law, as Mr. George Sokolsky recently wrote, “historically has a tendency to reduce farmers to peasants”. If our farmers are to avoid this reduction to ruin, some division of total demand among them must be made. There are those who will suggest that the farmer make his own division of demand. Here again we are met with the fact that the farmer will not organize—and that it is best for America that he not do so. If it be true, however, that division of demand is unavoidable, without a price support program, then certainly no loss of freedom will result from a price support program merely because crop controls are essential to such a program.

No. Price supports do not herald the twilight of liberty. Certainly self-appointed guardians of the farmer's freedom have played this siren song exceedingly well. Notable among them is the greater part of our press—itself the beneficiary of direct subsidy, through our postal system. The press is FREE, though its plan is ever cut, but price supports would render the farmer not only a mendicant, but a slave as well! The farmer must not be lured upon this rock of destruction. As always, we must beware Greeks, when they come bearing gifts.

Is it fair—is it fair to ask the farmer to continue the fountain-head of our freedom—telling him that he must live solely by the

law of supply and demand—and clip him with a Fair Trade Law every time he enters a store? No! The innate decency of Americans rebels at the suggestion! The American farmer must continue the free individualist, uncompromising with tyranny in every form. That he may do so, he must have a price support program. This is the cross-roads at which America stands with her farmers today. On the one hand, we look down a tranquil avenue of co-operation, mutual esteem, prosperity—for the farmer and for America. Down the other road, there is but the prospect of a weak, ineffective agriculture, the ultimate destruction of liberty. There can be no doubt as to the way we must choose.











